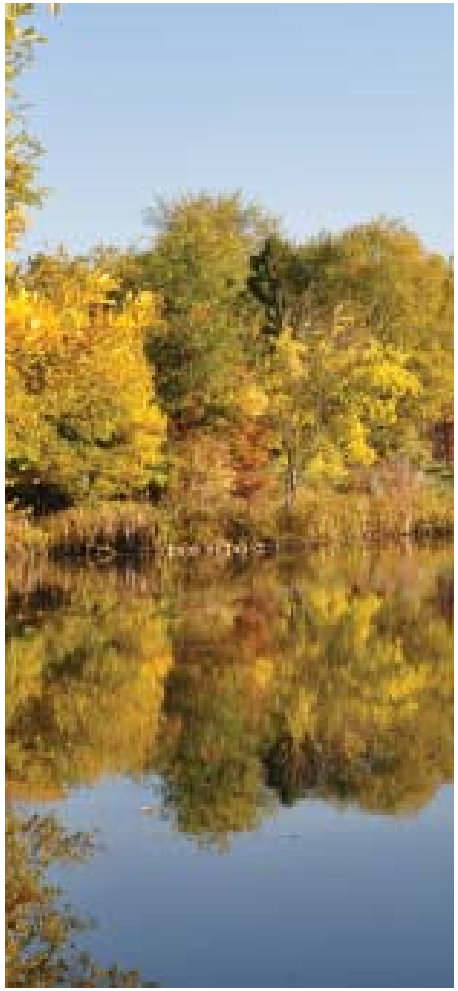

Parks and Trails Master Plan

City of Fruitland, Idaho

July 2014

City of Fruitland

Mayor

Honorable Ken Bishop

City Council

Ed Pierson

Stuart Grimes

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Rick Watkins

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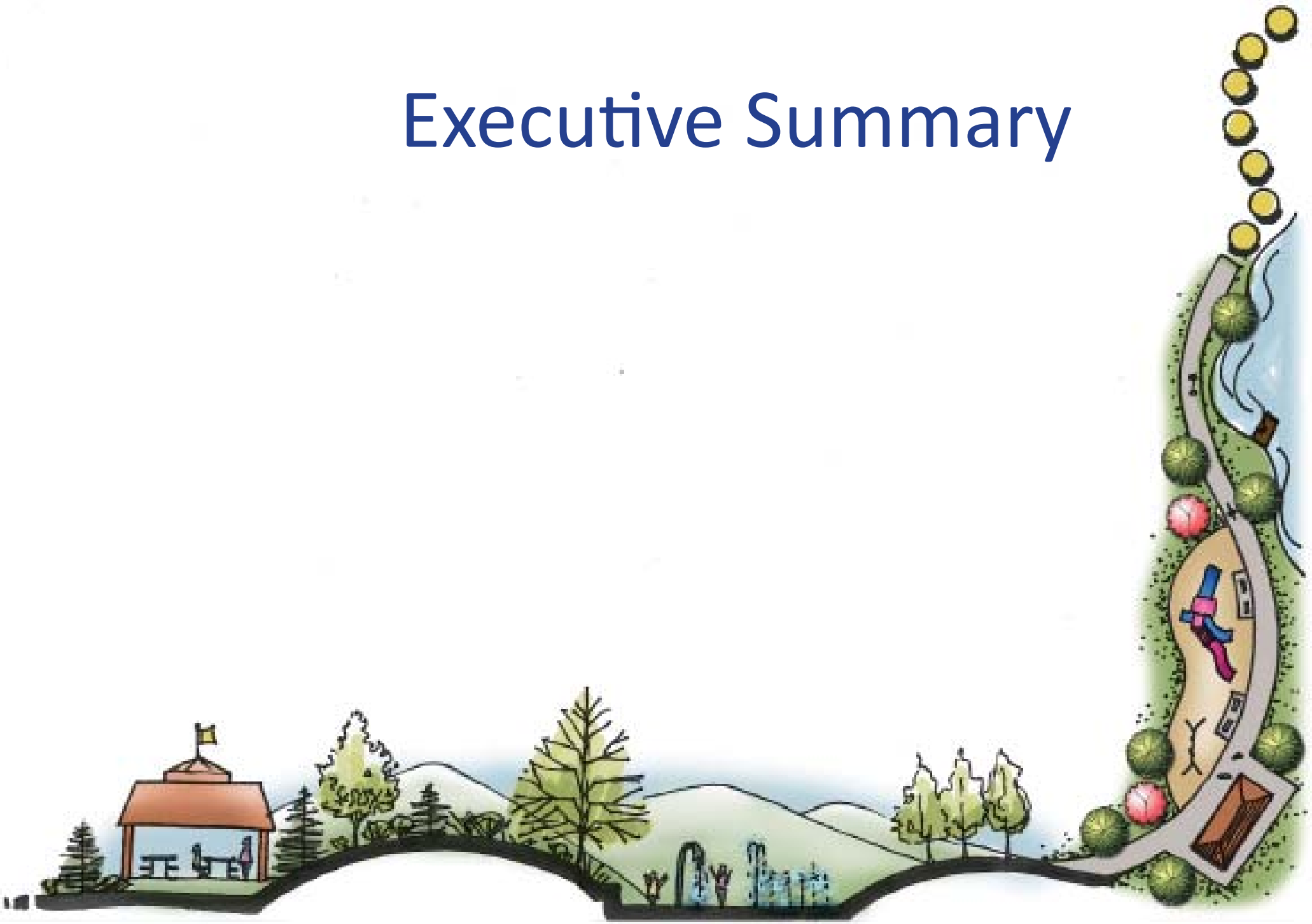
Acronyms

2T	2nd Avenue Trail
CT	Crestview Trail
EST	East Side Trail
FCT	Farmers Co-Op Trail
HT	Highland Trail
I-84	Interstate 84
N	north
NE	northeast
NRPA	National Recreation and Parks Association
NW	northwest
PCRD	Payette County Recreational District
PRT	Payette River Trail
PSCT	Payette-Snake Connector Trail
RV	recreational vehicle
S	south
SW	southwest
SRT1	Snake River Trail 1
SRT2	Snake River Trail 2
US-30	U.S. Highway 30
US-95	U.S. Highway 95
W	west
WT	Washoe Trail

Executive Summary



Key Points

This parks and trails master plan has been developed to help plan for and manage Fruitland's parks, open space, recreation facilities, and trail system. This plan inventories existing parks and trails and gives direction for the future planning and development of Fruitland's open space recreation opportunities. National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) 1983 guidelines suggested there should be up to 10.5 acres of developed park land per 1,000 people. Currently, Fruitland has 18.1 acres of park land per approximately 4,700 people. While NRPA has since moved away from nationally prescribed minimums toward a method for setting aside park land that involves more community input, the 1983 guideline still represents an important park space goal since community input from the mayor, City Council, Parks and Trails Advisory Committee, and Fruitland residents has shown that the citizens of Fruitland place a high value on parks and recreation.

This parks and trails master plan

- identifies five potential new park sites;
- suggests expansion or improvements to Fruitland's four existing parks;
- identifies approximately 20 miles of a potential trail system network; and
- suggests near-term and long-range bicycle lane implementation goals.

As this plan is implemented, Fruitland's citizens will reap the benefits of improvements to the parks and trails that enhance quality of life.

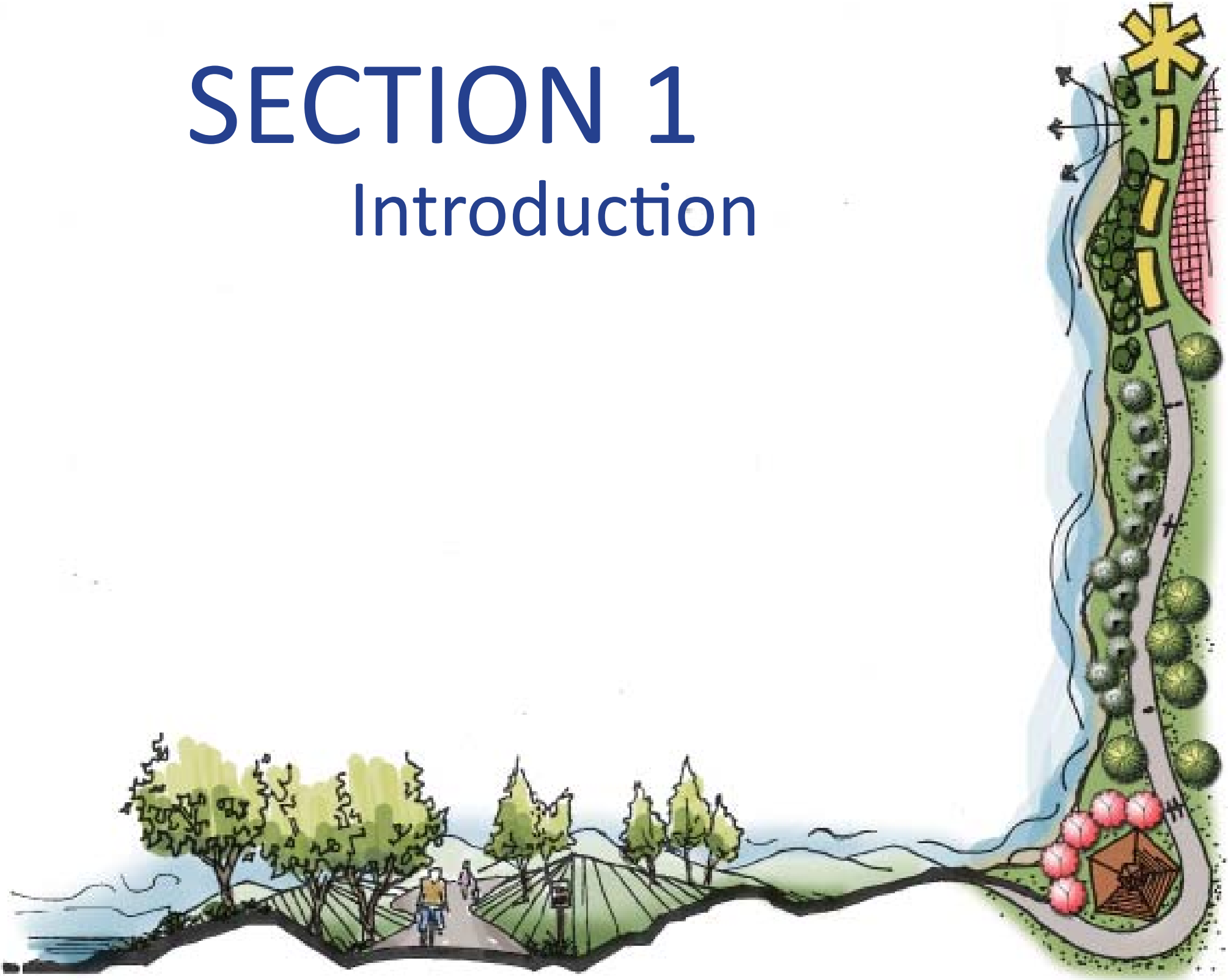
Organization of Document

This plan is organized as follows:

- ***Section 1: Introduction*** describes Fruitland's vision, goals, and objectives for existing and future parks and trails systems. It also includes a brief Fruitland community profile.
- ***Section 2: Existing Recreation Facilities*** inventories Fruitland's existing recreation facilities and summarizes current operations and maintenance costs.
- ***Section 3: Public Involvement*** reviews Fruitland's efforts to solicit public input on how Fruitland's residents use existing parks and trails, what they would like to see in the future, and feedback on proposed modifications and additions to Fruitland's parks and trails.
- ***Section 4: General Guidelines for New Parks and Trails*** summarizes national guidelines for parks and sporting facilities, and provides examples of park amenities and trail types Fruitland could consider implementing.
- ***Section 5: Master Plan Recommendations*** proposes new park sites, a new trail system, new bike lanes, new river recreation, and upgrades to existing parks.
- ***Section 6: Implementation*** provides important planning considerations; permitting considerations; and lists programs, foundations, grants, and other fundraising mechanisms to help fund the recommendations in this plan.
- ***Section 7: Cost Breakdown*** estimates conceptual probable costs for new park amenities, recreation facilities, and trails, and includes important maintenance considerations for any new park and trail implementations.
- ***Glossary*** defines terms used in the document.
- ***References*** lists documents, emails, and phone conversations cited in this plan.
- ***Appendix A*** presents materials used to solicit public feedback on Fruitland's parks and trails systems.

SECTION 1

Introduction



Need for Parks and Trails Master Plan

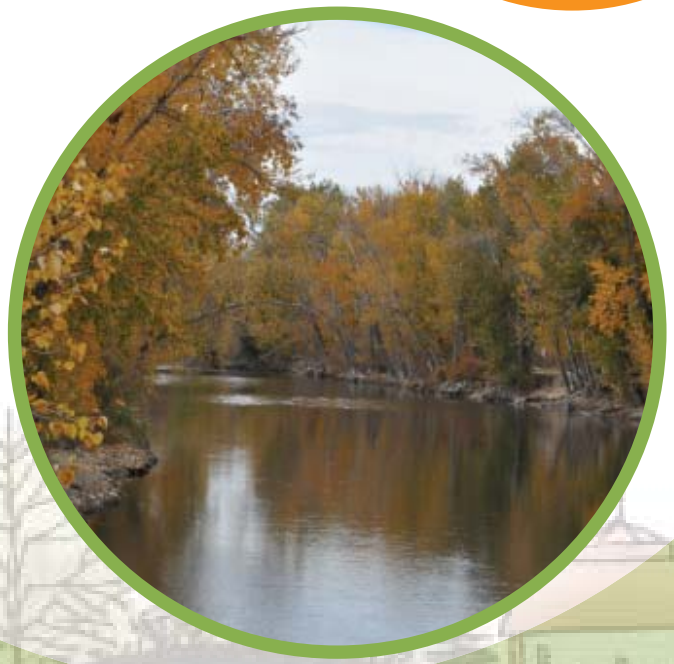
Fruitland's 2013 *Comprehensive Plan* update identified recreation as an important element to Fruitland residents' quality of life. This Fruitland *Parks and Trails Master Plan* is a comprehensive guide for Fruitland's parks and trails systems, reflecting the community's high priority for recreation, fitness, non-motorized connectivity, and the outdoors as key components of a livable city.

Fruitland should use this document as a reference guide to plan for and secure open land for future parks and a city-wide trail system as land is developed throughout Fruitland's impact area, and as transportation corridors are upgraded and new ones are planned and designed. It is intended for use by Fruitland decision makers and advisory boards, such as the mayor, City Council, city departments, recreation-oriented groups, and the general public.

This plan is intended to facilitate the development of open land, recreation facilities, and alternative transportation systems, including trails and bicycle lanes for all non-motorized forms of transportation. It also suggests options for incorporating the Snake and Payette rivers into recreation opportunities. It is not intended to set forth strict standards, but to present sound guidelines for the locations for, types of, and construction of parks and trails.

This plan is designed for decision makers to

- set guidelines for Fruitland staff regarding property acquisition, park and trail development, and maintenance;
- give direction regarding priorities for projects;
- provide ideas and options for park and trail funding; and
- set guidelines for park and trail implementation.



Vision

VISION STATEMENT

"Open space, outdoor recreation facilities and trail systems provide health benefits, enhance community aesthetics, bring the community together, relieve congestion, improve air quality, improve quality of life, and increase property values."

In the future, as residents and visitors to Fruitland see housing, shopping, restaurants, schools, medical facilities, and other services cover the land, they should also see open space, parks, and trails. The Snake and Payette rivers should be a vital part of the community setting connected to the city by green space, parks, and trails.

Parks provide residents and visitors opportunities to gather together and participate in active and passive sports, fitness activities, and outdoor living. Parks should be connected to the Snake and Payette rivers to facilitate river activities, such as fishing, bird watching, kayaking, canoeing, and floating. Parks offer opportunities for all age groups and should link to schools and neighborhoods.

A coordinated trail system should link all the important destinations within Fruitland. Trails on sidewalks, neighborhood trails, bicycle lanes, and regional trail systems should provide safe, visible routes between parks, businesses, schools, and the Snake and Payette rivers running through Fruitland.

Goals and Objectives

As Fruitland grows and develops, there is increasing need and demand for community open land, recreational parks, sports facilities, meeting places, and trails connecting important places in Fruitland. There is a desire in the community to better identify, develop, and preserve park land and pedestrian and bicycle access as Fruitland's impact area is developed. In addition to encouraging outdoor recreation, the development of a non-motorized trail system can help reduce vehicle trips and traffic congestion. The result will be a community resource providing transportation alternatives, recreational opportunities, environmental aesthetics, open land preservation, and increased property values.

Fruitland Zoning Development Goals

Fruitland's park land is designated as public land and open space. This land provides recreational, aesthetic, and important transitions in the community and its purpose is to preserve and protect existing municipal, state, and federal land for the benefit of residents and visitors. As stated in Fruitland's *Comprehensive Plan*, the following strategies, guidelines, and policies apply to development within zones with this designation:

- Provide bicycle and pedestrian access to and from parks, open spaces, trails and surrounding neighborhoods.
- Locate small parks or outdoor spaces within walking distance to residents.
- Preserve existing public spaces for the greater community benefit.
- Make parks and public spaces aesthetically pleasing, attractive, and not merely undeveloped open space.
- Create partnerships between jurisdictions and with private developers to encourage park and open space development.
- Create and adopt a public parks and trails master plan to guide future development of community recreation facilities, including trails between subdivisions and future public parks and facilities.
- Once a parks and trails master plan is adopted, amend Fruitland's development regulations to facilitate the dedication of public open spaces, conservation easements, access easements, and trail easements when property is subdivided.
- Identify public greenbelt (trail) corridors that are located in the undevelopable floodplains of major creeks or rivers.
- Consider developing a trail plan that outlines community involvement and acquisition measures to develop greenbelts.
- Encourage pedestrian and bicycle connectivity between identified greenbelt corridors and adjacent subdivisions and development. Right-of-way for these connections should be dedicated during the platting process.
- Design and maintain public buildings to be models of development for Fruitland.

Master Plan Goals and Objectives

In order to support growth and provide a high quality lifestyle with diverse recreational opportunities, this parks and trails master plan has been developed with the following objectives in mind:

- Identify a trail system that promotes healthy activities and provides links between residential areas and public areas, such as parks and schools.
- Identify opportunities for access to the Snake and Payette rivers.
- Explore opportunities to upgrade and/or add recreational amenities to existing Fruitland parks.
- Identify locations for new Fruitland parks that meet the needs of the community (sports fields, playgrounds, nature areas, etc.).
- Develop a plan that promotes a sustainable, long-term parks and trails program.
- Provide recreation opportunities for all age groups.

Community Profile

Fruitland is a growing, rural community that sits on the western edge of Payette County between the Payette and Snake rivers in western Idaho. Payette County is bordered by Washington County to the north, Gem County to the east, and Canyon County to the south.

Nearby cities include Payette and Weiser to the north, Ontario, Oregon to the west, and Caldwell, Nampa, and Boise, Idaho to the south and southeast.

Payette County is located in the far west region of the Snake River Plain. This area extends east to west through central Idaho from Ashton to Weiser. U.S. Highway 95 (US-95) bisects Fruitland and is the main thoroughfare. U.S. Highway 30 (US-30) (Northwest 16th Street) intersects US-95 at Gayway Junction. Traffic can access US-95 at the Palisades Junction, which is the intersection of US-95 with Interstate 84 (I-84), south of Fruitland.

Fruitland and surrounding Payette County experience mild climate. The annual mean temperature is 52 degrees. The agricultural growing season lasts about 6 months from late April to early October. The average number of frost-free days is 147. During the summer, normal temperatures average in the mid-90s. Average annual precipitation is about 11 inches.

Fruitland's population was 4,683 residents in early 2011 according to the most recent U.S. Census Bureau estimate, which was a 2.5 percent increase from the 2010 census count. The average "growth rate" from 2000 to 2010 was about 2 percent annually. Fruitland's historic growth rate averaged about 3 percent annually from 1980 through 2010.

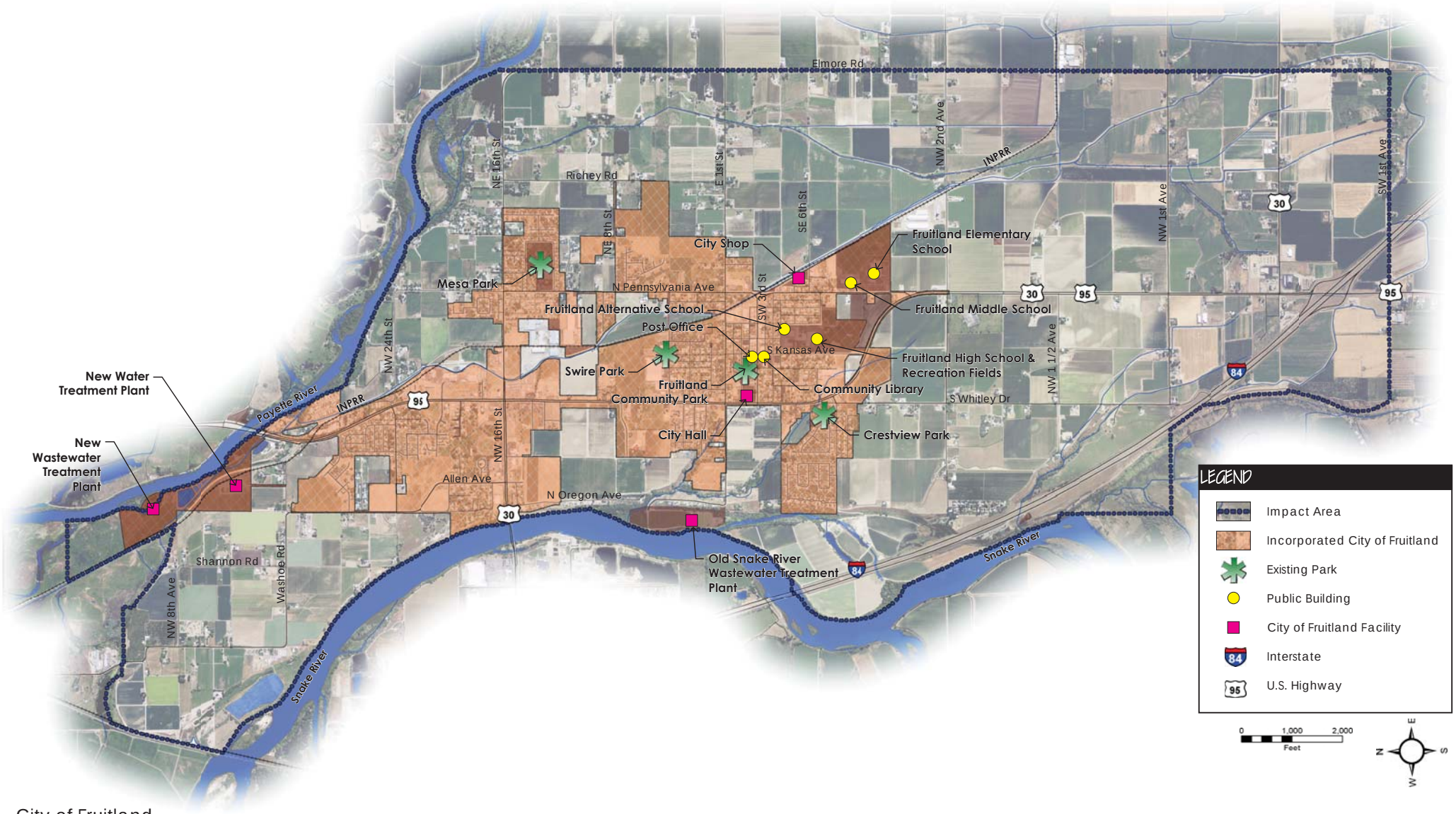
Fruitland has a relatively young population; the age groups 25 to 34 and 35 to 44 make up more than 25 percent of Fruitland's total population. The next largest age group is 5- to 9-year-olds making up more than 10 percent of the total population. Fruitland's population is expected to reach nearly 8,500 persons by 2035, a 90 percent gain.

The quality of life and small town atmosphere make Fruitland a desirable place to live. Recreation is a key element of a community's quality of life. It is important that residents have places to walk, run, bicycle, play sports, socialize with friends, and participate in group activities.

Fruitland is surrounded by open land, and residents enjoy the availability of land to hunt, fish, and hike. School sports and organized recreation, such as football, softball, and soccer, create a balance of undeveloped and developed recreational pursuits. Nevertheless, dedicated park, trail, and developed recreation areas have been a challenge for Fruitland, which has approximately 1 acre of park land for every 260 residents.

This parks and trails master plan develops guidelines for expanding and upgrading existing parks and future parks and trails.

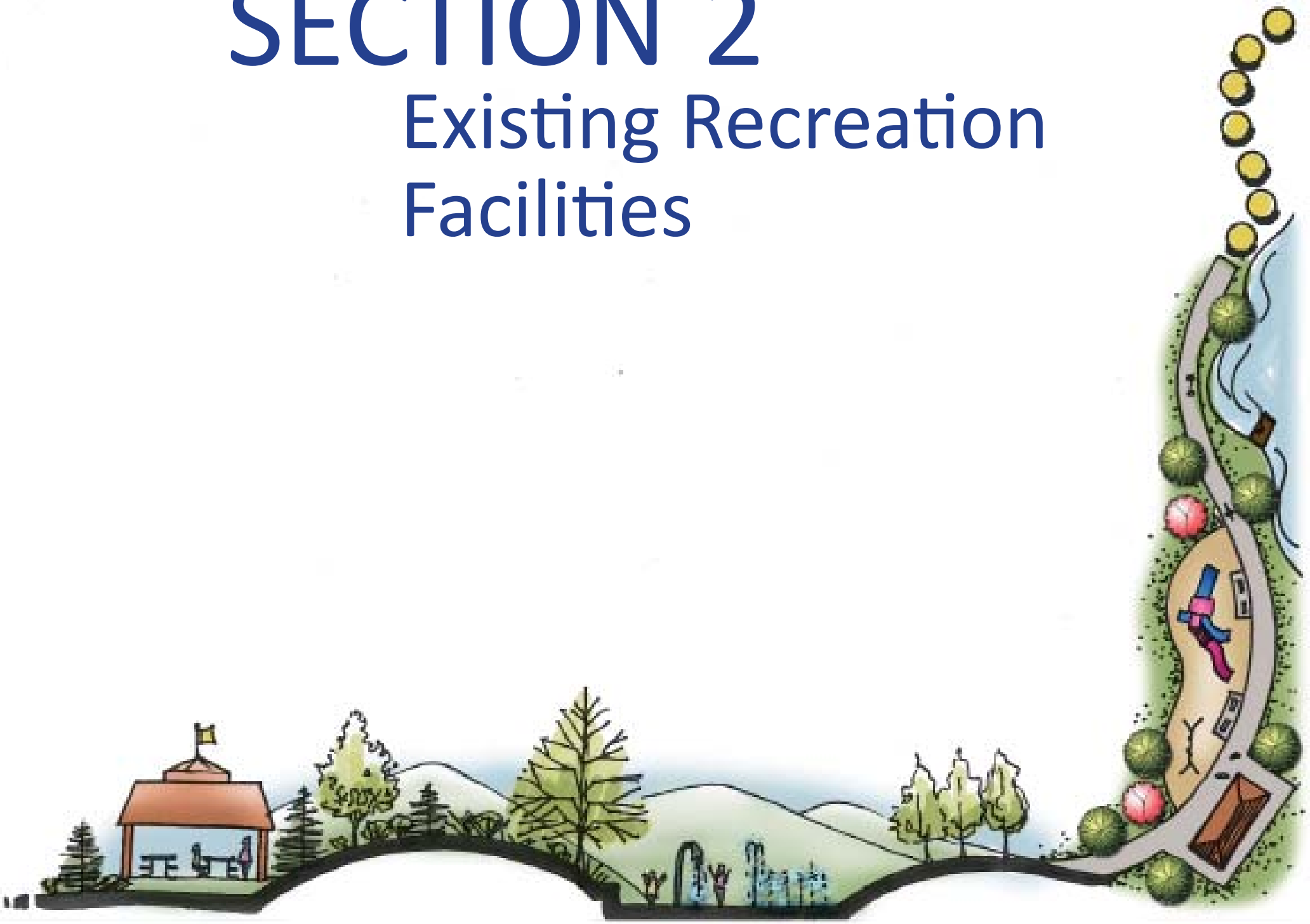
Figure 1. Vicinity Map



Aerial view of Fruitland

SECTION 2

Existing Recreation Facilities



Needs Assessment

Fruitland's existing park system is heavily used and frequently overcrowded. To begin to identify opportunities to improve the park system, Fruitland formed a Parks and Trails Advisory Committee comprised of Fruitland staff and citizens.

The committee identified areas for improvement, which include the following:

- Upgrade and add amenities to existing parks.
- Explore opportunities to create new parks to serve the entire community.
- Add dedicated pedestrian and bicycle trails making non-motorized travel easier throughout Fruitland.
- Add bicycle lanes on existing and future roadways to provide connectivity throughout Fruitland.

Upgrade existing park amenities, such as playground equipment, restrooms, concessions, and parking.

Provide for easier non-motorized travel throughout Fruitland and additional bicycle lanes.

Overview of Existing Parks and Recreation System

Fruitland has approximately 18.1 acres of developed, public park land. This equates to approximately 1 acre of park land for every 260 Fruitland residents. There are four public parks: Mesa Community Park, Crestview Park, Fruitland Community Park, and Swire Park. A description of each park follows and Table 1 lists the amenities and facilities each park offers.

Fruitland currently has four public parks: Mesa Community Park, Crestview Park, Fruitland Community Park, and Swire Park.

Mesa Community Park

Mesa Community Park is the largest of Fruitland's public parks. Fruitland owns the park jointly with the Payette County Recreational District (PCRD). Located in a northeast residential area on the east side of N Pennsylvania at NE 12th Street, the park contains a number of recreational opportunities, such as ball fields, basketball courts, tennis courts, and small playgrounds. Other features include picnic facilities, a concession stand, public restrooms, and off-street parking. Open space (i.e., space not dedicated to team sport fields) is limited to the area around the picnic shelter. The park is heavily used during warmer months. PCRD administrative and maintenance offices are located within this park.

Crestview Park

Crestview is not officially listed as a public park, but Fruitland owns and maintains the property on SW 8th Street, which was developed as an open space during the construction of the adjacent Crestview subdivision. The park is surrounded by residential homes. It is located in a naturally occurring depression adjacent to a natural drainage and is used for park and public space. The property is long and narrow with shade trees flanking each side and open space in the middle. There are no off-street parking spaces or sports facilities at this location.

Swire Park

This small park is located on NW 4th Street in central Fruitland and is bound on three sides by the Swire Coca-Cola bottling plant. A well-established residential area is located to the south, across NW 4th Street. Swire Park has a number of shade trees and primarily consists of open space. There are no sports or other recreational facilities and there is no off-street parking.

Fruitland Community Park

Located in downtown Fruitland between SW 2nd and SW 3rd streets, this park is heavily used for public and private events, such as picnics, family reunions, and weddings. There are no sports facilities, but the park has many picnic shelters with water and electricity service, playgrounds, a gazebo, benches, meandering walkways, shade trees, and open space. A limited number of off-street parking spaces are available on SW 2nd Street along the north edge of the park, SW 3rd Street on the south, and the U.S. Post Office parking lot to the east.

Table 1. Inventory of Existing Park Amenities and Facilities

	FRUITLAND COMMUNITY PARK	MESA COMMUNITY PARK	CRESTVIEW PARK	SWIRE PARK
PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES				
Location	SW 3rd Street	NE 12th Street	SW 8th Street	NW 4th Street
Size (acres)	1.92	13.72	2.26	0.23
Urban/Rural	urban	urban	urban	urban
Topography	flat terrain	flat terrain	rolling terrain	flat terrain
ACCESSIBILITY				
ADA Parking and Access	2 spaces	3 spaces	---	---
On-site Parking	17 spaces	160 spaces	---	---
On-street Parking	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sidewalks (frontage)	Yes	Partial	Yes	---
Sidewalks/Trails (internal)	Yes	Yes	---	---
RECREATIONAL FACILITIES				
Soccer/Football Fields	---	3	---	---
Softball/Baseball Fields	---	4	---	---
Batting Cages	---	---	---	---
Tennis Courts	---	4	---	---
Basketball Courts	---	1.5	---	---
Sledding Hills	---	---	Yes	---
Skateboard Park	---	---	---	---
Horseshoe Pits	---	---	---	---
Swimming Pool	---	---	---	---
Shuffleboard	---	---	---	---
Walking Trails	---	---	---	---
Sand Volleyball	---	---	---	---
Boat Ramp	---	---	---	---
Open Play Areas	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
COMMUNITY AMENITIES				
Bathroom Facility	Yes	Yes	---	---
Drinking Fountains	Yes	Yes	---	---
Pond	---	---	---	---
Water Feature	---	---	---	---
Picnic Shelters	2	1	---	---
Picnic Tables	Yes	Yes	---	---
Educational/Information Kiosk	---	---	---	---
Amphitheater	---	---	---	---
BBQ Grills	---	---	---	---
Nature Area	---	---	---	---
Playground	Yes	Yes	---	---
Tot Lot	---	Yes	---	---
Concessions	---	Yes	---	---

ADA=Americans with Disabilities Act; SW=southwest; NE=northeast

School District Recreation and Open Space

The Fruitland School District owns approximately 36 acres of recreation and open space. Of the 36 acres, approximately 20 acres is open to the public. Facilities such as the football fields and baseball fields are restricted from public use. Table 2 presents an overview of the existing school-owned recreation and open space. The Payette County Recreation District has indicated that the school district facilities are very heavily used and that it is difficult to find open space throughout the community to conduct youth sports during seasons of high-use. The lack of usable space for youth sporting events is an important planning consideration to meet the recreation needs of the community.

Table 2. Inventory of Fruitland School District Recreation and Open Space

FACILITY DESCRIPTION	APPROXIMATE SIZE (ACRES)	PUBLIC USE (YES OR NO)
FRUITLAND HIGH SCHOOL		
Football Field	1.66	No
Track/Field	4.92	No
Baseball/Softballl Field #1	2.67	No
Baseball/Softball Field #2	0.97	No
Multi Purpose Sports Field	3.40	Yes
Batting Cages	0.13	No
Gymnasium	N/A	No
Additional Open Space	5.18	Yes
Total	**18.93**	
Total Available to Public	**8.58**	
FRUITLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL		
Soccer Fields	5.27	No
Playground	0.09	Yes
Additional Open Space	6.07	Yes
Total	**11.43**	
Total Available to Public	**6.16**	
FRUITLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL		
Playground	0.77	Yes
Additional Open Space	4.77	Yes
Total	**5.54**	
Total Available to Public	**5.54**	
OVERALL TOTAL	**35.90**	
OVERALL TOTAL AVAILABLE TO PUBLIC	**20.28**	

Trails

There is one existing dedicated multi-use trail in Fruitland. This 730-foot-long trail connects Fruitland High School on S Iowa Avenue to Fruitland Elementary School and Fruitland Middle School, which are both located on S Pennsylvania Avenue. Students use this trail to travel to and from the three schools.

There is also one pedestrian/bicyclist underpass of US-95, located near the intersection on US-95 and SW 7th Street. The underpass extends from the west side of US-95 to the east side of US-95 and provides safe access for pedestrians and bicyclists wishing to cross the highway.

There are currently no dedicated pedestrian trails on private property within Fruitland.

Bicycle Lanes

There are five local and state roads within Fruitland with bicycle lanes. The bicycle lanes are marked with longitudinal pavement markings, bicycle lane symbols, and bicycle lane signs. The total length of roadway with bicycle lanes in Fruitland is 2.3 miles. The bicycle lane locations are listed in Table 3.

Table 3. Existing Bicycle Lane Inventory

ROUTE	BEGINNING POINT	END POINT	TOTAL LENGTH	STATE/LOCAL
NW 16th Street (US-30)	Snake River Bridge	US-95	0.5 miles	State
Allen Avenue	NW 16th Street (US-30)	Washoe Road	0.5 miles	Local
SW 3rd Street	S Colorado Avenue	S Pennsylvania Avenue	0.3 miles	Local
S Pennsylvania Avenue	US-95	SW 3rd Street	0.7 miles	Local
SW 4th Street	S Kansas Avenue	S Pennsylvania Avenue	0.3 miles	Local

NW=northwest; US-30=U.S. Highway 30; US-95=U.S. Highway 95; SW=southwest; S=south

Eastbound bicycle lane on SW 3rd Street

Other Recreational Opportunities

Fruitland currently owns and maintains a number of properties, several of which have the potential for park, public space, and recreational opportunities. Following are two of these opportunities.

Snake River Lagoons

Fruitland is in the process of decommissioning its existing 30-acre wastewater treatment facility, adjacent to the Snake River west of downtown. Once decommissioned, this property will be available for redevelopment as an active and passive recreational facility.

Water Treatment Facility

Fruitland recently constructed a new water treatment facility on a 23-acre parcel of a Fruitland-owned property in north Fruitland off of NW 6th Street. Besides the water treatment facility, the property is undeveloped and has potential for recreational facilities.

New water treatment facility (above) and Snake River lagoons (left)

Maintenance and Operation Overview

Costs provided by Fruitland and PCRD show that approximately $122,400 is spent annually to maintain Fruitland's four existing parks: Fruitland Community Park, Crestview Park, Swire Park, and Mesa Community Park. Of these four parks, Fruitland fully maintains all except Mesa Community Park, which Fruitland and PCRD jointly maintain.

It is difficult to determine equipment (mowers, tractors, etc.) and vehicle costs as these are typically one-time, as-needed investments to help with the operation and maintenance of existing parks. For instance, PCRD purchased a tractor as a one-time investment in 2013 for $16,200 to assist with the maintenance of Mesa Community Park. Table 4 estimates annual maintenance and operations costs for Fruitland's existing parks. The table includes a description of maintenance and operations activities, salary of maintenance staff, and maintenance expenses typically incurred.

Table 4. Estimated Annual Park Operations and Maintenance Costs

ITEM	ANNUAL ESTIMATED COST	GENERAL DESCRIPTION
CITY OF FRUITLAND		
Supplies	$12,000/year	Includes fertilizer, tools, equipment repair and maintenance, auto repair and maintenance, cleaning supplies, etc.
Maintenance Staff/Labor	$24,000/year	Includes mowing, fertilizing, weed control, irrigation repairs, tree trimming, building maintenance, equipment maintenance, park amenity maintenance, cleaning, etc.
Electrical	$5,800/year	Includes power for heating and lights at park facilities.
Fuel	$2,000/year	Includes vehicle and equipment fuel for maintenance and operation activities.
PAYETTE COUNTY RECREATION DISTRICT COSTS		
Supplies	$36,400/year	Includes fertilizer, tools, equipment repair and maintenance, auto repair and maintenance, cleaning supplies, etc.
Maintenance Staff/Labor	$42,200/year	Includes mowing, fertilizing, weed control, irrigation repairs, tree trimming, building maintenance, equipment maintenance, park amenity maintenance, cleaning, etc.
TOTAL ANNUAL OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE COSTS	**$122,400/year**	

Sources: Payette County Recreation District 2014; City of Fruitland 2014.

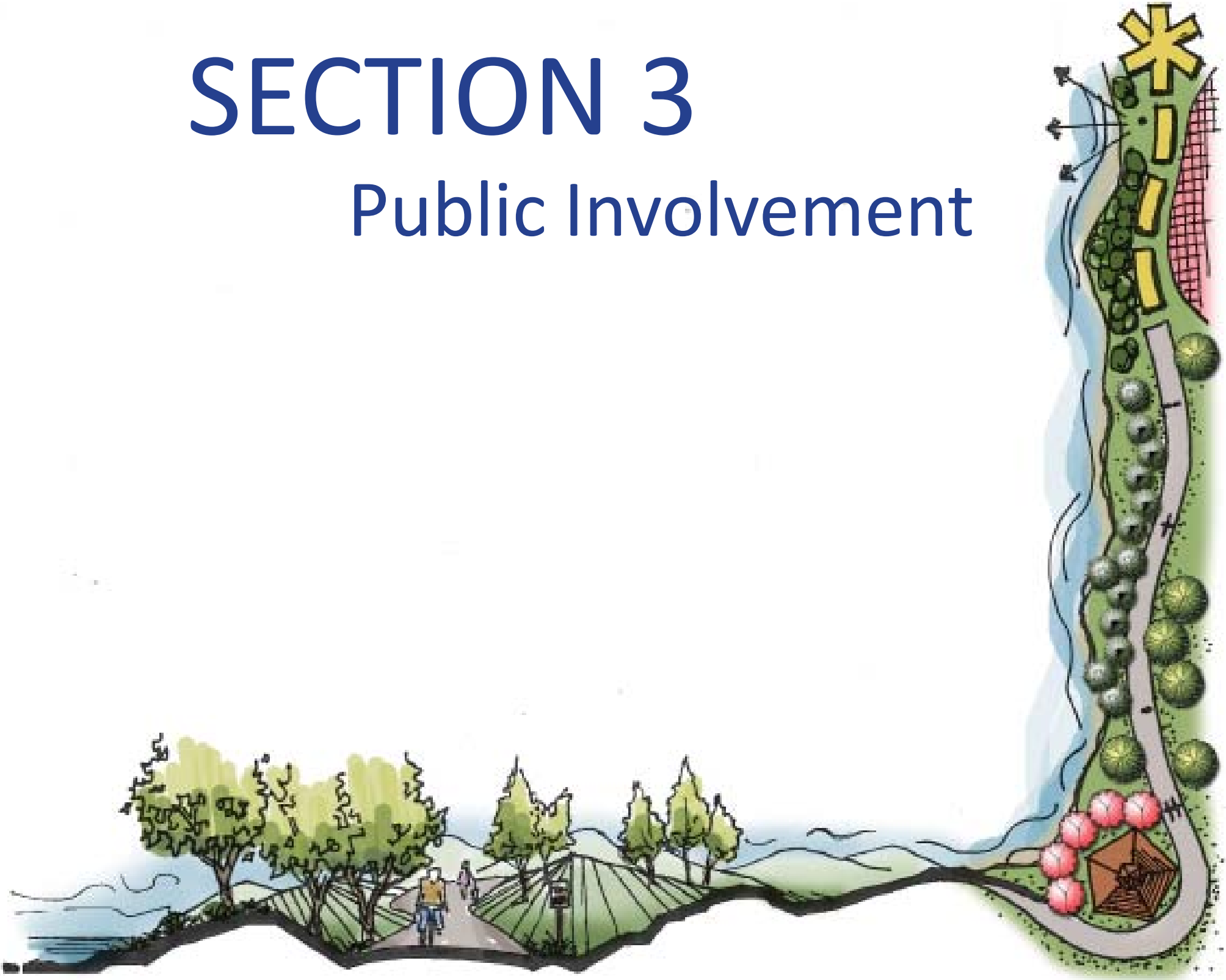
Payette River

Fruitland Community Park

Looking north toward the Payette River from NW 24th Street

SECTION 3

Public Involvement



Public Open House

To give Fruitland citizens an opportunity to share what matters most to them pertaining to Fruitland park land, trails, and recreational facilities, and to help shape the future of Fruitland's parks and trails, Fruitland hosted a public open house at City Hall on February 19, 2014. The mayor, members of the City Council, the city administrator, members of the Parks and Trails Advisory Committee, and representatives of HDR facilitated the open house.

Notice of Public Open House

A tri-fold notice announcing the February 19, 2014, public open house was included in utility bills sent to Fruitland residents during the January 2014 billing cycle. Fruitland residents were invited to attend the open house any time between 4:30-8:00pm at City Hall. A sample of the meeting announcement is included in Appendix A.

February 19, 2014 Public Open House

Open house attendees were asked to sign in as they entered City Hall. Approximately 50 residents attended throughout the evening.

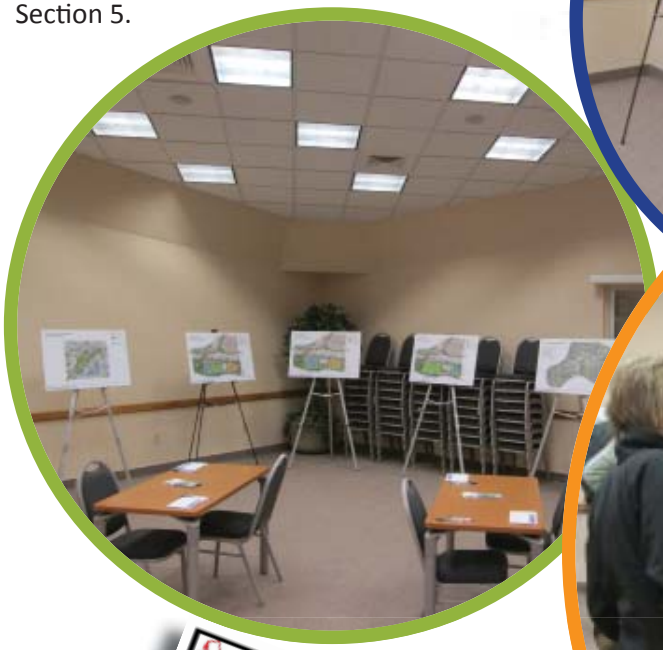
During the open house, a series of display boards showing a conceptual trail layout with potential trail types, several park concepts, and pictures showing potential future park amenities were placed throughout the room, allowing attendees to view the boards and share ideas with the open house facilitators.

After viewing the boards, attendees were invited to complete comment cards giving feedback on the concepts viewed at the open house. In addition to gathering feedback on the concepts, the comment cards were helpful in gathering information on how residents currently use existing parks, their level of support for new parks and trails, and which park amenities were most popular. A sample of the comment card used at the open house is included in Appendix A.

Respondents completed 50 comment cards that were collected at the open house and in the days following. A complete summary of the comments received is presented in Appendix A. Following the open house, copies of the display boards and a printable comment card were added to the City of Fruitland website.

Incorporating Public Comments

HDR revised the conceptual plans shown during the public open house based on comments received. See all final concepts in Section 5.



City of Fruitland

COMMENT CARD

City of Fruitland
Parks and Trails Master Plan
Public Open House - February 19, 2014

On average, how frequently do you or your family use Fruitland's existing city parks?
(Please select **one**)

- ☐ Once a day
- ☐ One to two times a week
- ☐ At least once a month
- ☐ Occasionally
- ☐ Never

What activities do you or your family use Fruitland's existing city parks for?

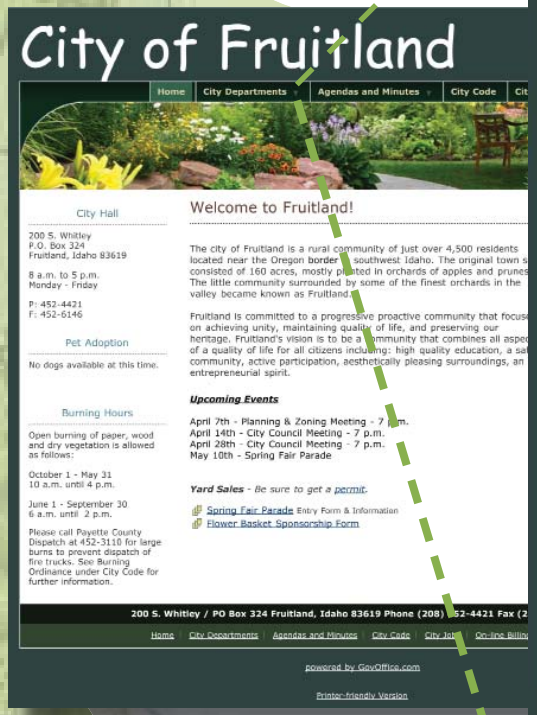
Would you like to see the city develop additional

(Please circle **one**)
Yes **No**

City of Fruitland Website

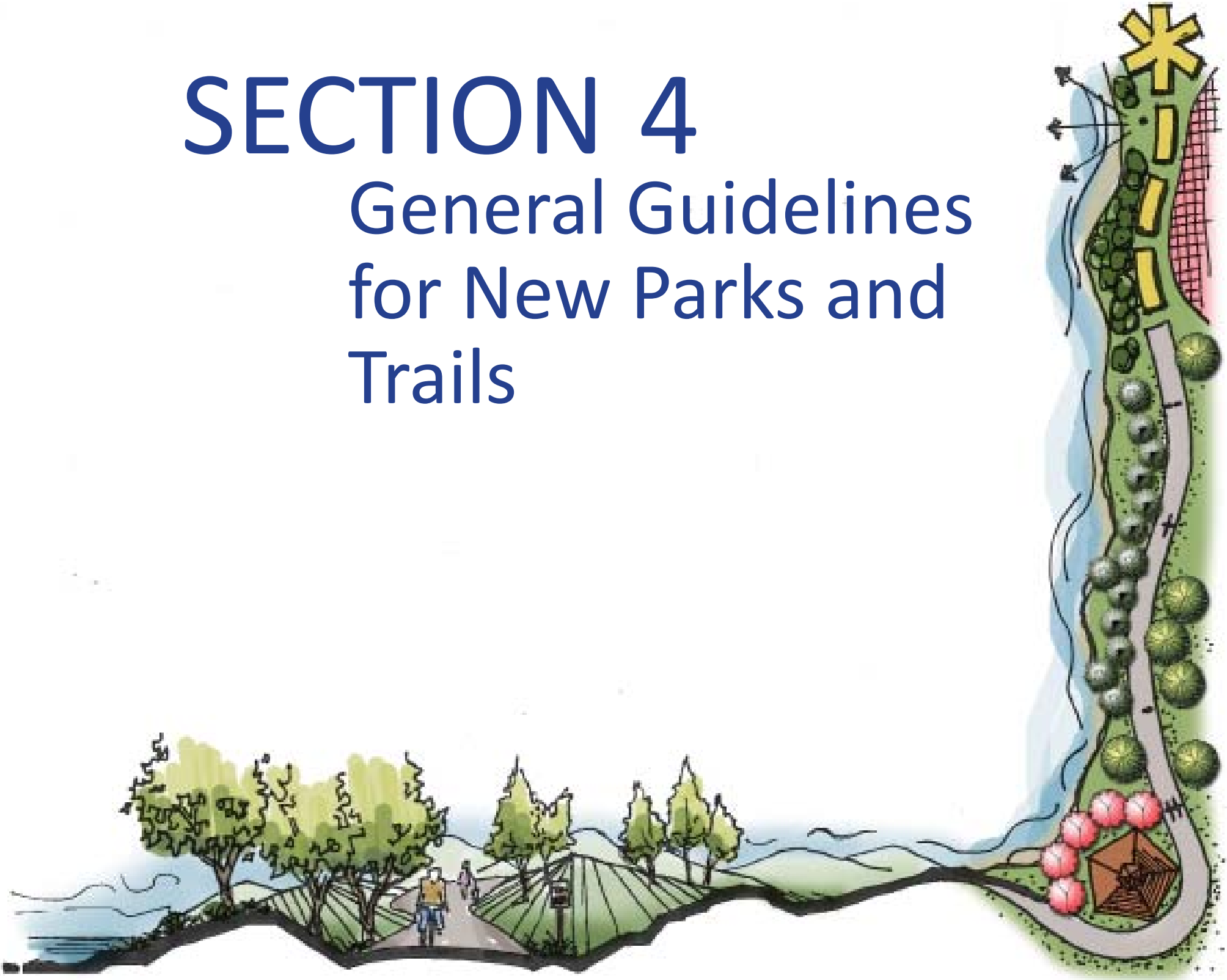
www.fruitland.org

http://www.fruitland.org



SECTION 4

General Guidelines for New Parks and Trails



National Recreation and Parks Association Guidelines

A community's park system can provide passive and active recreation opportunities for both residents and visitors. When evaluating park size, it is important to consider the park's level of service. Level of service standards are measures of the amount and quality of park and recreation sites and facilities that must be provided to meet a community's basic needs and expectations.

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) is the leading non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of public parks, recreation, and conservation. In 1983, NRPA published *Recreation, Park, and Open Space Standards and Guidelines*, which developed standard national guidelines intended to guide communities in determining the required level of service to help them meet their community open space objectives. At that time, this standard suggested a total of 6.35 to 10.5 acres of developed space per 1,000 people. Compare this with Fruitland's 18.1 acres of park land to approximately 4,700 residents. These NRPA standards were adopted by many jurisdictions.

However, as time went on, NRPA research suggested that few jurisdictions felt that nationally prescribed minimums were feasible. In 1995, NRPA did not abandon the national acreage standard, but did move more toward guidelines that suggest identifying each community's unique needs through inventorying existing park area and facilities, and assessing the community's need for parks through field observations, visitor surveys, and a public involvement process.

Suggested Design Standards

NRPA's suggested park classification system is based on use and size. The four classifications of parks include mini parks (or pocket parks), neighborhood parks, community parks, and regional parks.

The classification system is helpful in planning a logical distribution of these parks and open land that will serve the entire community. For example, a majority of a neighborhood park's users will come from an area immediately surrounding and within walking distance of the park, whereas, community and regional parks with special features will draw from a larger service area.

Table 5 describes NRPA's four park classifications, including general description, location, and size criteria.

The following pages describe each park type in more detail.

Table 5. NRPA Park Classification

CLASSIFICATION	GENERAL DESCRIPTION	LOCATION CRITERIA	SIZE CRITERIA
Mini (Pocket) Park	Used to address limited, isolated, or unique recreational needs.	Less than ¼-mile distance in residential setting.	Typically 1 acre or less.
Neighborhood Park	Remains the basic unit of the park system and serves as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. Focus is on informal, active and passive recreation.	¼- to ½-mile distance and uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers.	Typically 5 to 10 acres.
Community Park	Serves broader purpose than neighborhood park. Focus is on meeting community-based recreation needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open space.	Determined by the quality and suitability of the site. Usually serves multiple neighborhoods and ½- to 3-mile distance.	As needed to accommodate desired users. Typically between 5 and 25 acres.
Regional Park	Serves a broader purpose than community parks and used when community and neighborhood parks are not adequate to serve the needs of the community. Focus is on meeting community-based recreational needs as well as preserving unique landscapes and open space.	Determined by the quality and suitability of the site. Usually serves the entire community and may have users from neighboring communities.	Typically larger than 25 acres.

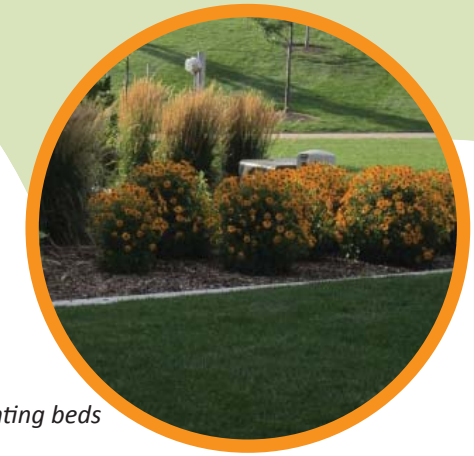
Park Types

Mini Parks

As its name implies, a mini park is the smallest of the park types. These parks address recreation needs in urban and residential areas where there is limited space for large, active recreation facilities. Mini parks are usually less than 1 acre in size and are typically found in areas where space is the limiting factor. Common locations include mid-block pedestrian connections; scenic overlooks; and vacant, undevelopable lots. One or more of the following amenities is commonly associated with mini-parks:

- Seating and picnic areas
- Signs, informational kiosks
- Planting beds
- Plazas
- Focal points, water features, memorials
- Small playgrounds
- Scenic overlooks
- Parking is not commonly associated with mini-parks.

Because mini parks sometimes require a lot of maintenance relative to the limited recreational value they provide, as a general rule, they should only be developed if no other options exist within a given area.



Planting beds

Signs

Small picnic area

Seating

Memorial

Small playground

Creative playground structure

Picnic shelter

Court sports (foreground), shelter and unstructured open fields (background)

Restrooms

Neighborhood Parks

The neighborhood park is the most common park type. It is often intended to serve as an extension to the backyard. These parks are the recreational and social focus of a neighborhood and should accommodate active and passive uses for all age groups and abilities. Typically, neighborhood parks are 5 to 10 acres in size. They are usually geographically centered to serve visitors within a quarter- or half-mile, and must be easily accessible for walking or bicycling. One or more of the following amenities is commonly associated with neighborhood parks:

- Creative playground structures
- Court sports (tennis, pickleball, volleyball, basketball, horseshoe pits, etc.)
- Picnic shelters
- Seating areas
- "Informal" ball fields for unstructured, open play
- Restrooms (depending on public input)
- Parking (approximately 1 to 2 spaces for each acre of park land)

A neighborhood park should be designed based on input from the neighborhood it would serve. The average age of visitors and the types of activities that would benefit the largest number of those visitors are two main criteria to consider when designing a neighborhood park.

Community Parks

Community parks are often used to preserve unique landscapes and open spaces while providing the community with recreational facilities that may not be found in neighborhood parks. These parks provide for broader community-based recreation needs and are intended for use by multiple neighborhoods and visitors, located within a half-mile, but up to 3 miles away. Community parks typically range from 5 to 25 acres in size. One or more of the following amenities is commonly associated with community parks:

- Large, creative playground structures
- Swimming pools, splash pads
- Court sports (tennis, pickleball, volleyball, basketball, horseshoe pits, etc.)
- Picnic shelters
- Seating areas
- "Formal" ball fields for structured ball games
- Natural recreation areas, fishing ponds
- Restrooms and concessions
- Community centers
- Parking (approximately 40 spaces per ball field plus 5 spaces for each acre of park land)

The design should involve public input to reflect the community's need for larger facilities with a goal of accommodating community events and gatherings, such as meetings, sports tournaments, fairs, and performances. Occasionally, these parks can also house other public facilities, such as museums and community centers.

Formal ball fields

Picnic shelter and seating area

Playground structure

Fishing pond (foreground) and community center (background)

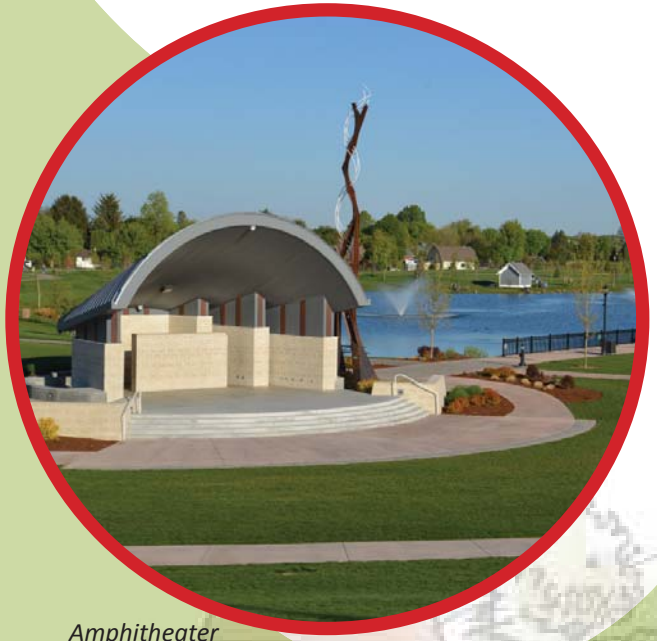
Concessions and restrooms

Regional Parks

Picnic shelter (foreground), water access and parking (background)

When community and neighborhood parks are not adequate to serve the recreational needs of a community and surrounding area, regional parks are designed to fill those needs. Similar to community parks, the focus of regional parks is on meeting community-based recreational needs, but at a larger scale. These parks often have a lot of open space, including extensive trail systems, which may serve as the hub for a community-wide trail system. Typically, regional parks are greater than 25 acres in size and are intended to serve an entire community or neighboring communities. They should be located based on the suitability of the site. One or more of the following amenities is commonly associated with regional parks:

- Large, creative playground structures
- Swimming pools, splash pads
- Court sports (tennis, pickleball, volleyball, basketball, horseshoe pits, etc.)
- Picnic shelters
- Seating areas
- Sports complex
- Water body access (boating, fishing, swimming, etc.)
- Natural recreation areas, fishing ponds
- Restrooms and concessions
- Arboretum
- Amphitheater
- Community center
- Parking (varies by type of facilities planned)



Amphitheater

Regional parks should be designed based on public input, including various community groups and organizations. Frequently, regional parks are located to preserve unique landscapes or areas of historical and cultural importance to a community or surrounding area.

Picnic shelter

Park Sporting Facilities

NRPA also suggests standards for the development of outdoor facilities for inclusion in parks. These are listed in Table 6.

Table 6. NRPA Suggested Outdoor Facility Development Standards

ACTIVITY FORMAT	RECOMMENDED SIZE AND DIMENSIONS	RECOMMENDED SPACE REQUIREMENTS	RECOMMENDED ORIENTATION	SERVICE RADIUS AND LOCATION NOTES
Archery Range	300 L X 10 feet minimum between targets 30 feet minimum roped, clear area on side of range 45 W X 90 L feet minimum clear space with bunker behind targets	0.65 acres minimum	Archer facing north +/- 45 degrees	30-minute travel time Part of a regional/metro park
Badminton	Singles - 17 W X 44 L feet Doubles - 20 W X 44 L feet with 5-foot unobstructed area on both sides	1,622 square feet	Long axis is north-south	1/4-mile travel distance Usually in school recreation center or church facility Safe walking or biking access
Baseball 1. Official 2. Little League	 Baselines - 90 feet Pitching mound - 60.5 feet Foul lines - 320 feet minimum Center field - 400+ feet Baselines - 60 feet Pitching mound - 46 feet Foul lines - 200 feet Center field - 200-250 feet	 3.0-3.85 acres minimum 1.2 acres minimum	Locate home plates so pitcher is not throwing across sun and batter is not facing sun. Line from home plate through pitcher's mound runs east-northeast.	1/4- to 1/2-mile travel distance Part of neighborhood park Lighted fields part of community park
Basketball 1. Youth 2. High school 3. Collegiate	 46-50 W X 84 L feet 50 W X 94 L feet 50 W X 94 L feet with 5-foot unobstructed space on all sides	 2,400-3,036 square feet 5,040-7,280 square feet 5,600-7,980 square feet	Long axis is north-south	1/4- to 1/2-mile travel distance Outdoor courts in neighborhood/community parks, plus active recreation areas in other park settings
Beach Areas	25 square feet of land and 50 square feet of water per user. Turnover rate is 3. 3-4 acres support area per acre of beach.	N/A	N/A	30-minute to 1-hour travel time Sand bottom with a maximum slope of 5% Segregate boating areas from swimming areas Locate in regional/metro parks
Field Hockey	180 W X 300 L feet with a minimum of 10-foot clearance on all sides	1.5 acres minimum	Fall season - long axis is northwest or southeast Longer periods - long axis is north-south	15-30 minutes travel time Usually part of baseball, football, soccer complex in community park or adjacent to high school
Football	160 W X 360 L feet with a minimum of 6-foot clearance on all sides	1.5 acres minimum	Fall season - long axis is northwest or southeast Longer periods - long axis is north-south	15-30 minutes travel time Usually part of baseball, football, soccer complex in community park or adjacent to high school
Golf Driving Range	690 W X 900 L feet Add 12 feet to width with each additional tee	13.5 acres for minimum of 25 tees	Long axis is southwest-northeast with golfer driving northeast	30-minute travel time Park or golf course complex As separate unit, it may be privately operated
Golf 1. Par 3 (18 hole) 2. 9-hole standard 3. 18-hole standard	 Average L varies - 600-2,700 yards Average L - 2,250 yards Average L - 6,500 yards	 50-60 acres 50 acres minimum 110 acres minimum	Majority of holes on north-south axis	30 minute to 1 hour travel time 9-hole course can accommodate 350 people per day Course may be located in community, district, or regional/metro park

Table 5. NRPA Suggested Outdoor Facility Development Standards (continued)

ACTIVITY FORMAT	RECOMMENDED SIZE AND DIMENSIONS	RECOMMENDED SPACE REQUIREMENTS	RECOMMENDED ORIENTATION	SERVICE RADIUS AND LOCATION NOTES
Handball (3-4 wall)	20-40 feet with a minimum of 10 feet to rear of 3-wall court Minimum of 20 feet overhead clearance	800 for 4-wall square feet 1,000 for 3-wall square feet	Long axis is north-south Front wall at north end	15-30 minutes travel time 4-wall usually indoor as part of multi-purpose building 3- or 2-wall usually in park or school setting
Ice Hockey Rink	85 X 200 feet (85 X 185 minimum)	22,000 square feet including support area	Long axis is north-south if outdoors	30-minute to 1-hour travel time Climate is an important consideration affecting the number of units. Best as part of a multi-purpose facility.
Multi-use Courts (basketball, tennis, etc.)	80 W X 120 L feet	9,840 square feet	Long axis of court with primary use north and south	1-2 miles travel distance In neighborhood or community parks
Soccer	195-225 W X 330-360 L feet with 10-foot minimum clearance on all sides	1.7-2.1 acres	Fall season - long axis is northwest or southeast Longer periods - long axis is north-south	1-2 miles travel distance Number of units depends on popularity Youth soccer on smaller fields adjacent to larger fields
Softball	Baselines - 60 feet Pitching mound - 45 (men)/40 (women) feet Field radius from plate: Fast pitch - 225 feet Slow pitch - 275 (men)/250 (women) feet	1.5-2.0 acres	Locate home plates so pitcher is not throwing across sun and batter is not facing sun. Line from home plate through pitcher's mound runs east-northeast.	1/4- to 1/2-mile travel distance
Swimming Pools 1. Teaching 2. Competitive	25 W X 45 L yards with even depth of 3-4 feet 16 W X 25 L meters with minimum of 25-square-foot water surface per swimmer. Ratio of 2:1 deck to water.	Varies on size of pool and amenities. Usually 1- to 2-acre sites.	None, but care must be taken in sitting lifeguard stations in relation to afternoon sun.	15-30 minutes travel time Pools for general community use should be planned for teaching, competitive, and recreational purposes with enough room to accommodate 1- and 3-meter diving boards. Located in community park or school site
Tennis	36 W X 78 L feet 12-foot clearance on both ends	7,200 square feet minimum for single court 2 acres per complex	Long axis is north-south	1/4- to 1/2-mile travel distance Best in batteries of 2 to 4 Located in neighborhood/community park or near school site
Volleyball	30 W X 60 L feet Minimum of 6-foot clearance on all sides	4,000 square feet minimum	Long axis is north-south	1/2- to 1-mile travel distance
1/4-mile Running Track	Overall W - 276 feet L - 600 feet Track W for 4-8 lanes - 32 feet	4.3 acres	Long axis in sector from north to south to northwest-southeast with finish line at north end	15-30 minutes travel time Usually part of a high school or community park complex in combination with football, soccer, etc.
Horseshoes*	Pitcher's box - 6 W x 6 L Pit - 6 W x 46 L feet with a 2-foot buffer on all sides Adjacent courts 10 feet apart minimum Back-to-back courts 16 feet apart minimum	Variable	North-south for outdoor courts	1/4- to 1/2-mile travel distance Outdoor courts in neighborhood/community parks, plus active recreation areas in other park settings

*Horseshoe court development standards from National Horseshoe Pitchers Association; none available from NRPA.
L=length; W=width; N/A=not applicable

Park Amenities

FISHING PONDS

Urban fishing ponds provide opportunities for city dwellers and children to fish without having to travel to a natural fishing stream or lake. These urban fishing resources

- provide fishing opportunities close to home;
- teach a new generation the art and joys of fishing;
- build community support for aquatic stewardship; and
- develop programs by communities for communities.

The following are general criteria for planning urban fishing ponds:

- Minimum pond size is 1 acre.
- Minimum pond depth is 15 feet, but greater depths allow for over-winter fish survival. Ponds less than 15 feet deep lack the oxygen to sustain fish when the pond freezes during winter months.
- If there is not flow through, provide aerators at a rate of about one per acre of pond surface to keep water oxygenated and fresh.
- For safety, develop a flat shelf at a ratio of 4:1 or flatter around the pond perimeter so that the water is shallow enough to allow persons who might fall a better opportunity to get out of the pond.

FISHING PIERS AND BOARDWALKS

SPLASH PADS

Splash pads complement recreational areas and provide opportunities for all park visitors to enjoy easy, safe access to water. Splash pads

- provide play opportunities for all ages and abilities;
- address needs of specific demographics, such as toddlers;
- provide opportunities for interactive play and social development;
- encourage physical activity; and
- promote community pride.

Advantages of splash pads over other water-related, active recreation opportunities, like swimming pools, include the following:

- There is no standing water, so no lifeguard supervision is required.
- Pad sizes are flexible and adaptable to most site conditions.
- Maintenance costs are less than for swimming pools.
- Splash pads are automated and user-activated.

While there is great variability depending on the size and features included with a splash pad, and there are not currently national guidelines for developing splash pads, some general planning guidelines include the following:

- Capacity: Allow 25 square feet per splash pad user.
- Topography: Install on a level surface. Slopes may affect mechanical equipment, such as pump sizing and pipe sizing. Avoid low areas susceptible to flooding.
- Soil: Soil conditions will influence the sub-grade requirements for the activity deck.
- Vegetation: Trees around the perimeter of a splash pad can enhance the aesthetics and provide shading. However, certain species may cause problems with leaves or pine needles that can block drains, valves, and filters.
- Climate: Respect prevailing winds in the orientation and layout of the splash pad to avoid over-spray.
- Utilities: Potable water source, drainage, and electricity.

PLAYGROUNDS

SIGNS

Signs are an important element in parks and trail systems. Signs explain rules and guidelines, provide directions, tell a story, document history or a nearly forgotten culture, and interpret the environmental setting.

General guideline for signs include the following:

- Pick a sign theme and style for each park
- Pick a sign theme for trails
- Provide a clear message
- Make the message fun
- Avoid sensory overload
- Use eye-catching shapes and colors
- Use readable fonts
- Use durable materials
- Determine sign budget
- Maintain signs

SPORTS COURTS AND FIELDS

PICNIC SHELTERS AND SEATING

LANDSCAPED OPEN SPACE

Multi-use Trail Types

Generally, multi-use trails are intended to serve corridors where there are not highways and streets, or where wide utility corridors or former railroad rights-of-way exist. This allows room for trails to be constructed away from parallel streets. Multi-use trails should offer opportunities not provided by the road system. They can be recreational, and in some cases, serve as direct commute routes if cross-flow by motor vehicles and pedestrians is minimized.

Another common function of multi-use trails is to close gaps in bicycle and pedestrian travel caused by construction of cul-de-sacs, railroads, and state highways, or to circumvent natural barriers (rivers, mountains, etc.).

The most common locations for multi-use trails are along rivers, canals, utility rights-of-way, former or active railroad rights-of-way, or within and between parks. There may also be situations where trails can be provided as part of planned developments or industrial complexes.

While multi-use trails should be designed with bicyclists' and horseback riders' safety in mind, other users, such as pedestrians, runners, skate boarders, in-line skaters, dog walkers, persons pushing baby strollers, and persons in wheelchairs, are also likely to use such trails.

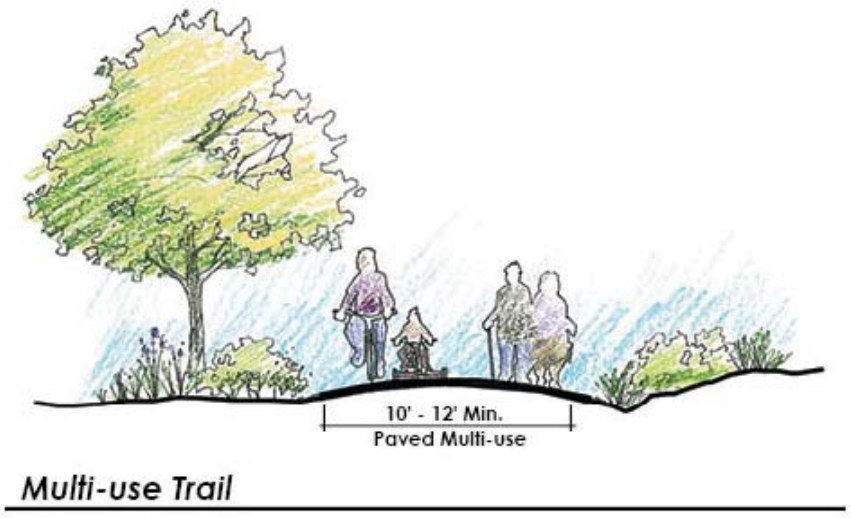
In selecting and designing the proper multi-use trail, two especially important criteria are safety and continuity.

- **Safety**: The proposed trail should never encourage or require bicyclists, horseback riders, pedestrians, or motorists to operate in a manner that is inconsistent with the rules of the road. The users' needs must be considered in selecting the appropriate type of trail.
- **Continuity:** Changing the character of a multi-use trail or interrupting it for street crossings is generally not appropriate. Alternating segments of multi-use trails and bicycle lanes along a route is inconvenient as it may require bicyclists, horseback riders, and pedestrians to cross streets when the route changes character or is not continuous. Also, wrong-way bicycle travel, which has a higher potential for crashes, may occur on streets beyond the ends of multi-use trails because of the difficulty of crossing the street.

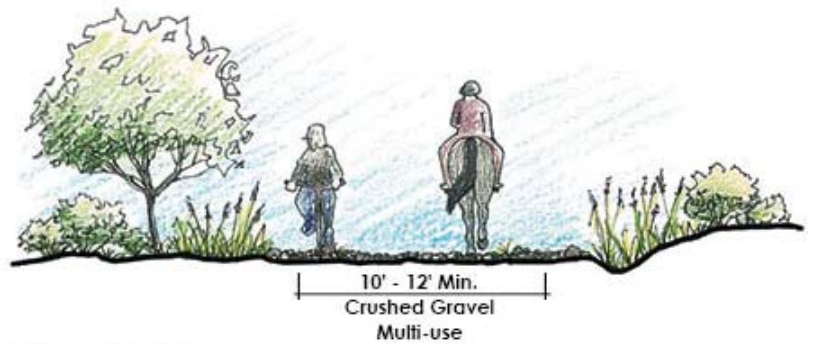
Federally-funded projects are required to conform to existing American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials design guidelines.

Shared Multi-use Trail

Shared multi-use trails are the most common type of trail. They typically consist of a paved or crushed gravel trail that is 10 to 12 feet wide and can accommodate multiple user types. These trails often pass through vegetated open space, creating a buffer between trail users and developed areas. Many multi-use trails include informational signs and pathway striping to help inform and guide trail users.



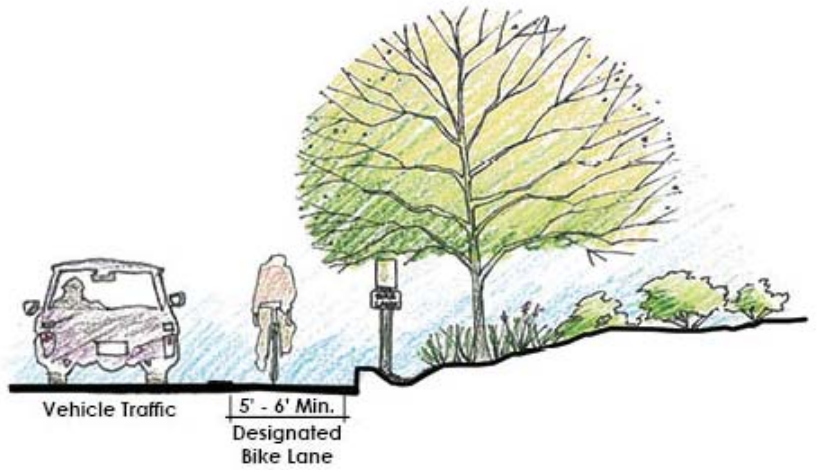
Multi-use Trail



Multi-use Trail

Shared Vehicle Bicycle Right-of-Way Trail

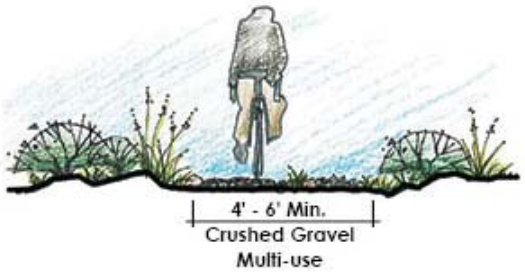
The shared vehicle bicycle right-of-way trail accommodates motorists and bicyclists within the same right-of-way with a 5- to 6-foot-wide bicycle lane between the traffic lane and the curb. This type of trail system has already been implemented in portions of Fruitland, including downtown, as part of the recently completed SW 3rd Street project.



Shared Vehicle / Bicycle Right-of-Way

Crushed Gravel Trail

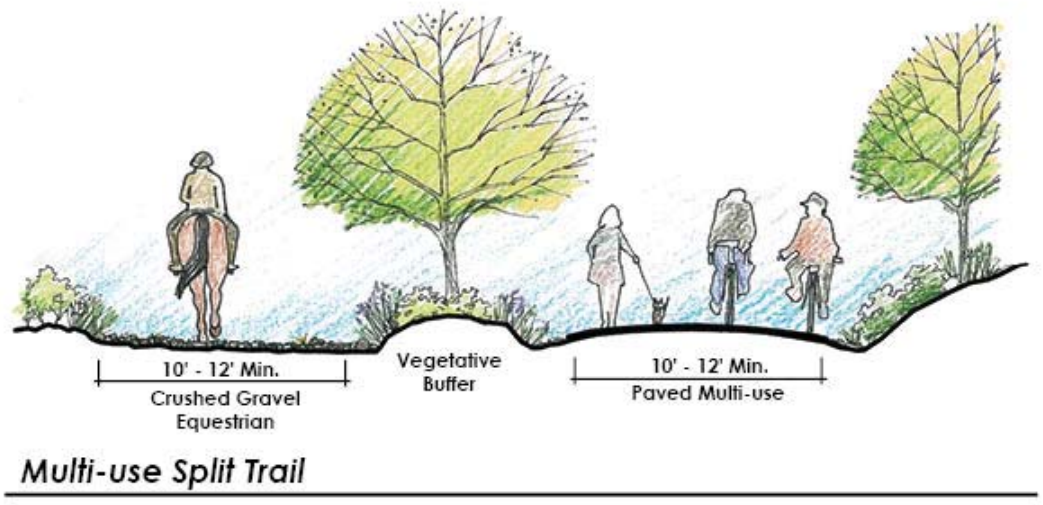
A crushed gravel trail is most commonly used in natural areas where there are fewer trail users and there is a desire for an unpaved trail. Typically, crushed gravel trails are 4 to 6 feet wide and could accommodate walkers, hikers, and mountain bicyclists.



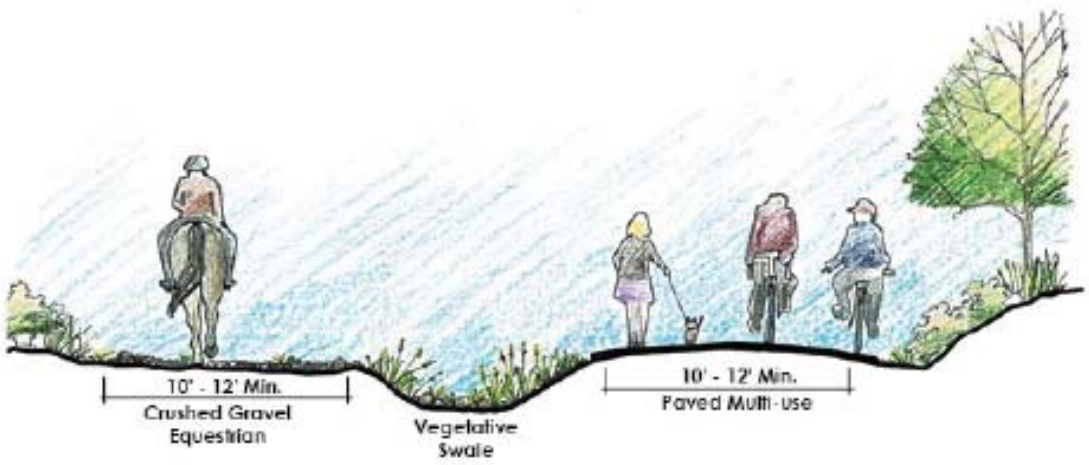
Crushed Gravel Trail

Multi-use Split Trail

The multi-use split trail separates horseback riders from bicyclists and pedestrians with a landscaped berm or a vegetated drainage swale. This design lessens the potential incidence of collisions and interferences between users.



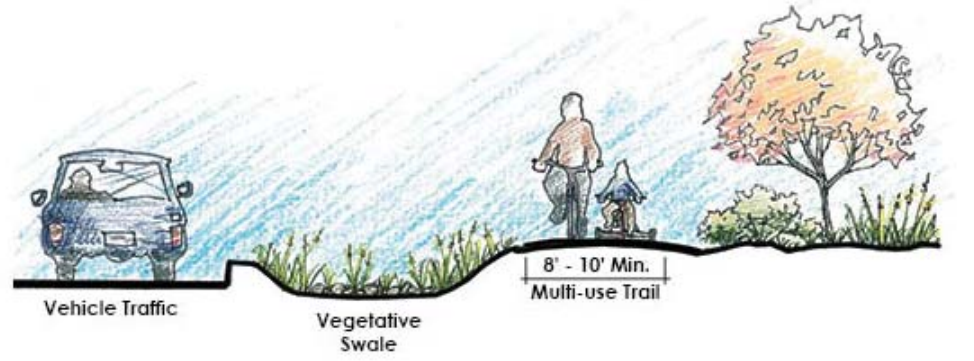
Multi-use Split Trail



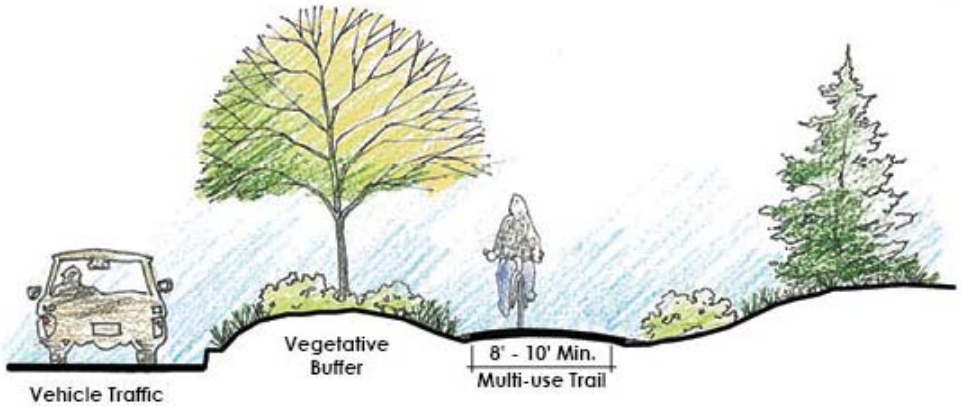
Multi-use Split Trail

Separated Vehicle Multi-use Right-of-Way Trail

The separated vehicle multi-use right-of-way trail separates the trail from vehicle traffic lanes by a landscaped berm or vegetated drainage swale. This design increases safety for bicyclists, joggers, and pedestrians from adjacent traffic. The size of the landscaped berm would typically be 6 to 8 feet wide and 2 to 3 feet tall. The size of the vegetated swale would typically be 6 to 8 feet wide and 2 to 3 feet deep.



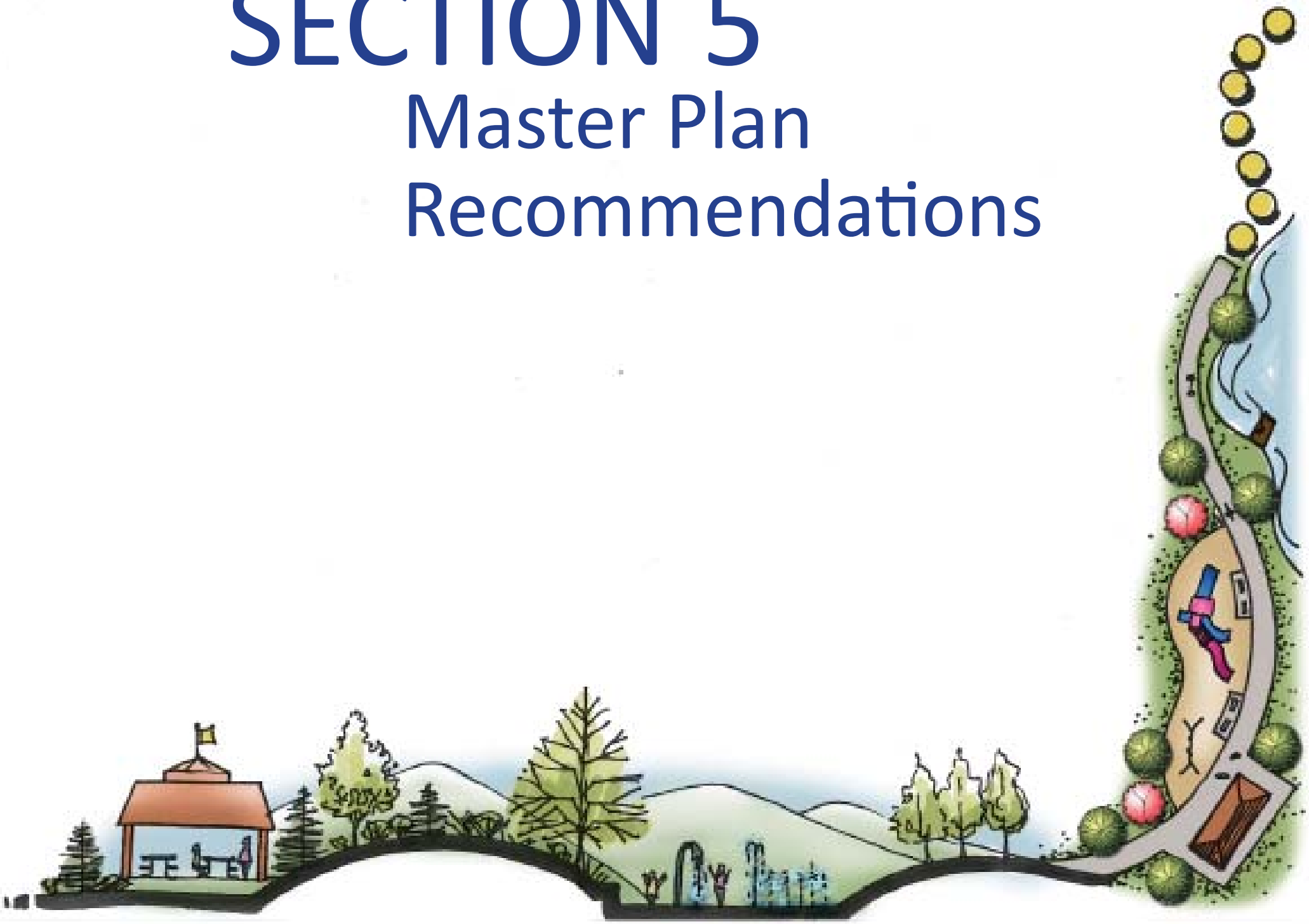
Separated Vehicle / Multi-use Right-of-Way



Separated Vehicle / Multi-use Right-of-Way

SECTION 5

Master Plan Recommendations



General Recommendations

Residents who attended the public open house and members of the Parks and Trails Advisory Committee all have indicated an interest in continuing to plan and develop Fruitland's parks and trails system. To that end, this parks and trails master plan makes the following general recommendations, followed by site-specific recommendations for new parks, new trails, new bicycle lanes, river-based recreation, and upgrades to existing parks.

Parks

Fruitland should look for opportunities to upgrade and add amenities to existing parks, and explore ways to create new parks to serve the entire community.

Additional community and regional parks should be a priority as Fruitland continues to grow and develop. These parks serve the entire community's recreation needs, and in some cases, preserve unique landscapes and open space.

Neighborhood parks are also important as residential development continues. These parks serve specific neighborhoods rather than the entire community, but they provide essential active and passive recreation opportunities and are the social focus of those neighborhoods.

Although this plan does not specifically recommend adding new mini parks to Fruitland, they are an important component of any city's park system and Fruitland should look for opportunities to create them where feasible.

Trails

There is a shortage of dedicated pedestrian and bicycle trails connecting residential areas in Fruitland to high activity zones, public facilities, and commercial areas. This makes transportation by non-motorized methods difficult.

Fruitland should incorporate off-street pedestrian facilities as development occurs in order to provide much-needed connectivity throughout Fruitland. Trails should be considered for commuting and for recreational opportunities.

Multi-use trails should be considered to provide connectivity throughout Fruitland, between high activity zones, commercial areas, and public facilities, such as schools, for those not using motorized vehicles. Multi-use trails can be located adjacent to existing roadway corridors or along other prominent linear features, such as railroad corridors, waterways, drainage features, valleys, and canals. Multi-use trails should be safely located outside of vehicle travel ways and safety provisions should be provided at all at-grade railroad and roadway crossings.

Bicycle Lanes

Additional bicycle lanes are needed on both existing and future roadway alignments in order to provide connectivity throughout Fruitland. Typically, on-street bicycle lanes on low-volume and low-speed vehicle roadways are more desirable than bicycle lanes on high-volume, high-speed arterials, such as US-95 and US-30. When upgrading existing roadways, Fruitland should add bicycle lanes or widened, paved shoulders to all major collector roadways.

River Recreation

Fruitland should look for opportunities to capitalize on potential river recreation activities being situated as it is with access to the Payette and Snake rivers.

New Park Sites

Several locations could potentially serve as future parks/open space for Fruitland residents:

- Snake River lagoon property
- Water treatment facility property
- Former packing plant property
- Snake River farmland property
- US-95 frontage road project

Fruitland already owns the lagoon and water treatment parcels, but should explore opportunities to acquire additional pieces of privately-owned land, like the former packing plant and farmland properties, that would fit into the development of these potential new park sites. Conceptual plans developed for each potential new park site and a description of each plan are included in the following pages.

Existing Crestview Park has great potential to be expanded. See more about this expansion concept in the section recommending upgrades to existing parks, which starts on page 5-22.

Snake River lagoon property

Snake River Lagoon Property

Fruitland is in the process of decommissioning a 30-acre wastewater treatment facility located along the Snake River, west of downtown. Once decommissioned, this property, which Fruitland already owns, will be available for redevelopment as a large community or regional park. It could offer active and passive recreation opportunities and preserve valuable riverfront access to the Snake River.

Snake River Park Conceptual Plans

The proposed Snake River Park has the potential to accommodate many different forms of active and passive recreation opportunities. If developed into a park, this area would preserve over 2,000 linear feet of riverfront access along the Snake River, creating a unique opportunity for docks that provide small boat or kayak access, small beaches for swimming or paddle boarding, and fishing/viewing piers that overhang the riverbank. Fully half of all respondents at the public open house indicated support for fishing opportunities at public parks, ranking it among the top three requests received from the public.

Because of the property's location, there are many opportunities to incorporate a trail network linking to downtown Fruitland, medical facilities, Crestview Park, and other upstream and downstream locations along the proposed trail system. Currently, the most viable option for vehicular entry into the proposed park is along the drainage that lies east of N Nevada Avenue. The entrance into the park would likely run adjacent to the existing entrance; however, more planning and engineering would be needed to determine the most suitable options for vehicular entry into the park.

Wetland natural areas, which ranked third highest in numbers of votes by respondents at the public open house, are located on the north and south ends of the property. These areas should be protected and/or restored wherever possible to create opportunities for walking, bird/wildlife viewing, and picnicking.

There are three concepts for the proposed Snake River Park included on the following pages. They are intended to help with planning and design by showing examples of the many recreational opportunities that exist at the proposed park.

Conceptual Plan A

Conceptual Plan A offers the most active recreation opportunities with a sports complex consisting of two soccer fields, two football fields, and two youth baseball/softball fields. It includes a 1.5-acre fishing pond with fishing piers (like the sketch pictured at right), a boat launch, centrally located restrooms/concessions, a splash-pad, and a playground. Passive recreation amenities would include six picnic areas dispersed throughout the open space, and a centrally located picnic shelter.

Conceptual Plan B

Conceptual Plan B preserves the most open space (like the wetland natural area sketch pictured on the bottom right) and offers passive recreation opportunities and restrooms. It includes a 6.5-acre fishing pond with three fishing piers in the area of the old wastewater lagoons and a second 1.5-acre pond with one fishing pier in the southern portion of the property. Four picnic areas and one picnic shelter provide community gathering locations within the park.

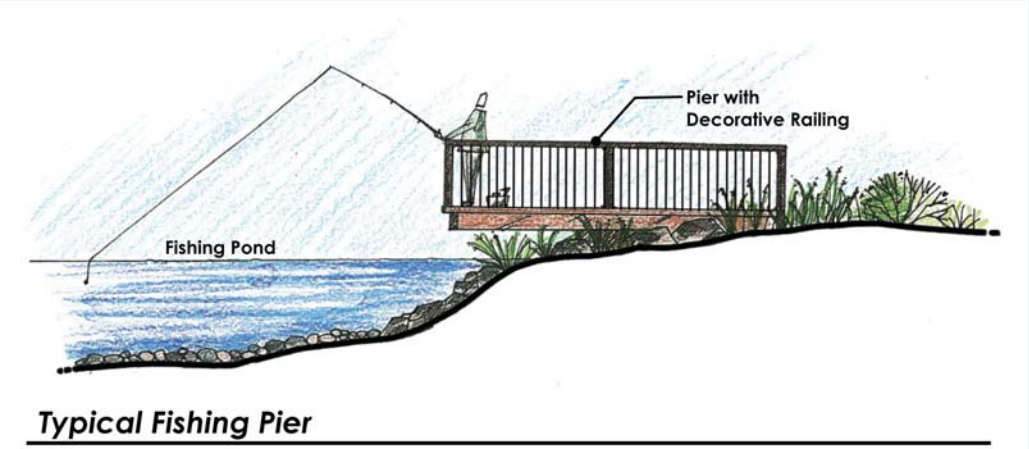
Conceptual Plan C

Conceptual Plan C provides the greatest mix of active and passive recreation opportunities. It includes a boat launch, two adult-sized baseball/softball fields with centrally-located restrooms/concessions, a disc golf kiosk, and a playground. Passive recreation opportunities include a 1.5-acre fishing pond with two fishing piers, five picnic areas dispersed throughout the open space, and two picnic shelters. The proposed recreational vehicle (RV) park is a unique feature that could be used by campers, recreationists attending softball tournaments, weekend bicycle riders riding along the trail system, or visitors in town for other area events. An RV park also presents the opportunity to assess user fees to help pay for park maintenance and operation costs.

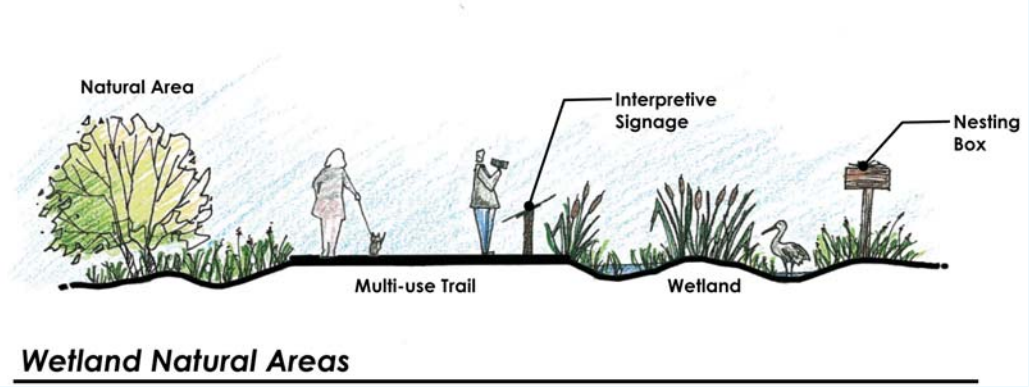
Small and large modifications have been made to these Snake River Park concepts from those shown at the public open house. Based on public comments received and input from the Parks and Trails Advisory Committee, the largest of these revisions include the following:

- Originally, concepts B and C proposed an RV park. Several commenters voiced opposition to an RV park, so it was eliminated from concept B. However, it remains in concept C because six respondents did list an RV park in their top three priorities.
- Concept B now proposes only passive recreation opportunities. Respondents ranked preserving natural, open areas and having fishing opportunities among the overall top three most important park features.
- Concepts A and C now include boat launches as 21 respondents indicated river access is a high priority.
- Concept A now includes a splash pad because eight respondents wrote in a splash pad as a top priority.

See the three concepts for the proposed Snake River Park in figures 2, 3, and 4.



Typical Fishing Pier



Wetland Natural Areas

Figure 2. Snake River Park Conceptual Plan A

Figure 3. Snake River Park Conceptual Plan B

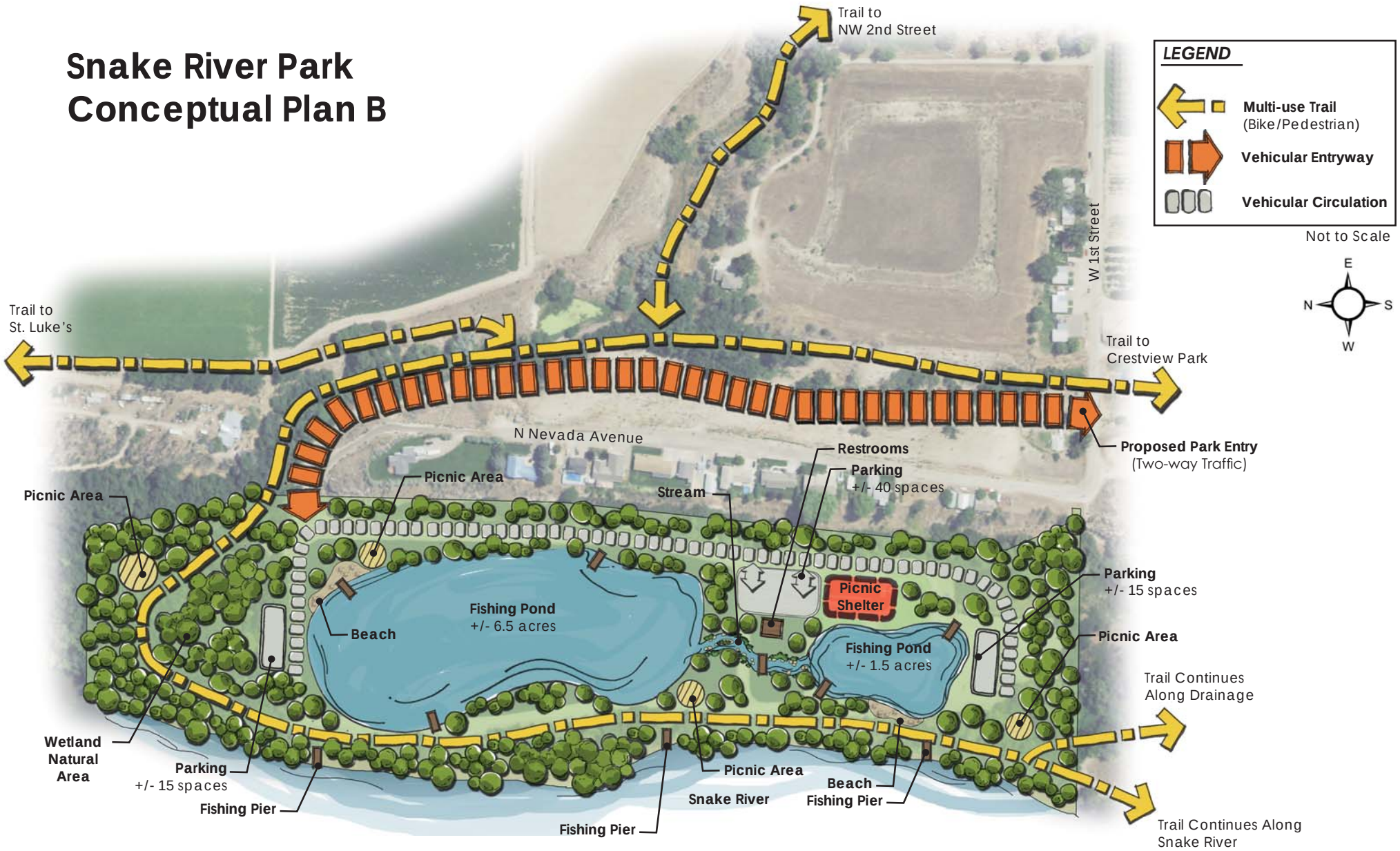
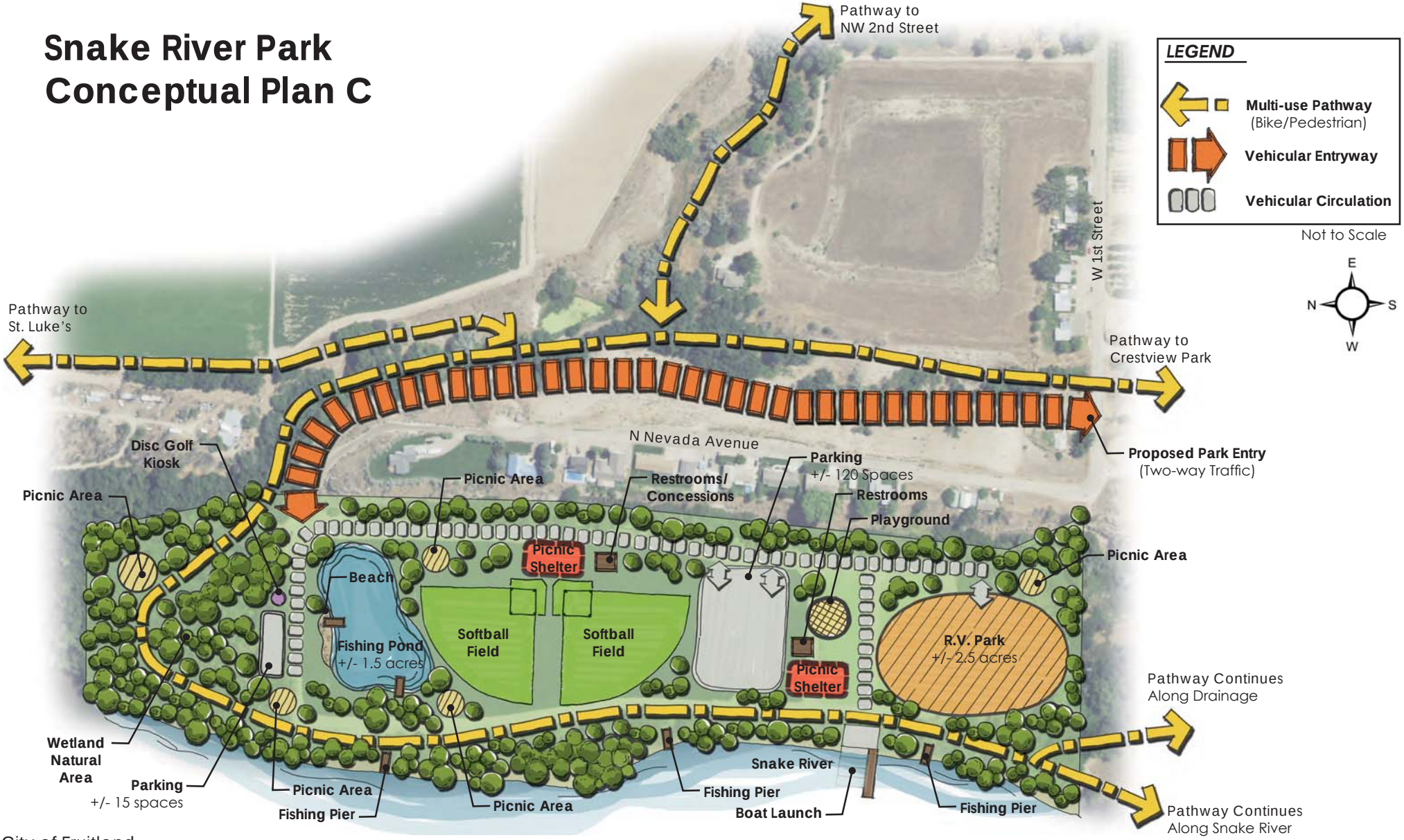


Figure 4. Snake River Park Conceptual Plan C



Water Treatment Facility Property

Fruitland recently constructed a new water treatment facility on a parcel of Fruitland-owned property in north Fruitland, off of NW 6th Street. Other than the area immediately surrounding the wastewater treatment facility, the 23-acre parcel is undeveloped and could potentially be used for a riverside sports complex.

Water treatment facility property (background) with adjacent parcel (foreground)

Payette River

Payette River Sports Complex Conceptual Plan

The proposed sports complex would provide Fruitland with another resource for active recreation. During past meetings of the Parks and Trails Advisory Committee, the PCRD discussed the shortage of athletic fields in Fruitland to meet current demand. PCRD also expressed a willingness to participate in the maintenance and operation of additional sports facilities, if needed.

The sport complex concept includes two soccer fields, two football fields, two youth baseball/softball fields, and an adult-size baseball/softball field. Other amenities would include two restrooms, a concession building, tennis courts, a playground, two picnic areas, picnic shelter for community gatherings, and a floater take-out area along the Payette River. A paved trail leading through park open space and crossing the railroad tracks would connect the complex to the trail system adjacent to the Payette River.

See the concept for the proposed Payette River Sports Complex on the water treatment facility property in Figure 5.

Though not shown in Figure 5, there are also approximately 13 acres of farmland bordering the Fruitland-owned property to the south. If Fruitland was able to acquire this bordering property, the open land would be ideal for a regional sports complex as it is relatively flat and would require limited grading and site work to develop the sports complex.

Opportunity for sports fields

Figure 5. Payette River Sports Complex Conceptual Plan

Snake River Farmland Property

There is approximately 180 acres of farmland located along the Snake River near I-84 and the Snake River Bridge, which would be ideal for a regional park. The land is, which is currently used for farming, is adjacent to a completely undeveloped portion of the Snake River. Also, the area would serve as a natural corridor linking the Snake River View Rest Area to the proposed Snake River Park located at the lagoon property.

Snake River farmland property

Fruitland Regional Park Conceptual Plan

The conceptual plan for Fruitland Regional Park incorporates several active recreation amenities, including a large baseball/softball complex and soccer fields that would be ideal for tournaments. Other active recreation opportunities include tennis courts, basketball courts, horseshoe pits, a disc golf course, playground, splash pad, and a potential location for a future aquatic center. Passive recreation opportunities include a large outdoor amphitheater with stage, many picnic shelters, and smaller picnic areas.

To accommodate tournaments and other events, a large RV park is located west of the interstate. Various recreation amenities would be located along the entire Snake River waterfront, including a boat launch, fishing piers, and a large beach with a swimming area. Other community amenities Fruitland could consider adding to the park include a senior center, youth center, or an indoor recreation center.

Access to the park would likely be from SW 8th Street. Two-way vehicle traffic would use existing road alignments to access various areas of the park, including the area west of the interstate, which can be reached via an underpass at the Snake River bridge. Traffic studies would be necessary to determine if the underpass could accommodate two-way traffic, including RVs and boats, accessing that side of the park. A multi-use trail would link the Snake River View Rest Area with the Snake River Park located to the north.

See the concept for the proposed regional park in Figure 6.

Among the proposed amenities are an RV park, amphitheater, disc golf, fishing opportunities, and a beach with a swimming area.

Figure 6. Fruitland Regional Park Conceptual Plan

Not to Scale

City of Fruitland

Parks and Trails Master Plan

Former Packing Plant Property

Approximately 11 acres of undeveloped private property surround a former packing facility along US-95 at the south entrance into Fruitland. This open lot is occasionally used for various riding/ rodeo-related events. If Fruitland could acquire the property, it could present a unique opportunity to develop a sports complex and an outdoor riding arena for various equestrian or rodeo-related events.

Outdoor Riding Arena and Sports Complex Conceptual Plan

The concept for the outdoor riding arena and sports complex includes pickleball and tennis courts, a restroom, and a parking lot to accommodate vehicles that may be pulling trailers.

The open space is located adjacent to US-95 and is one of the first areas visible to motorists entering Fruitland from the south. Enhancing the landscaping along the frontage road along the highway could help create an aesthetically pleasing and welcoming gateway into the community.

See the concept for the proposed outdoor riding arena and sports complex on the former packing plant property in Figure 7.

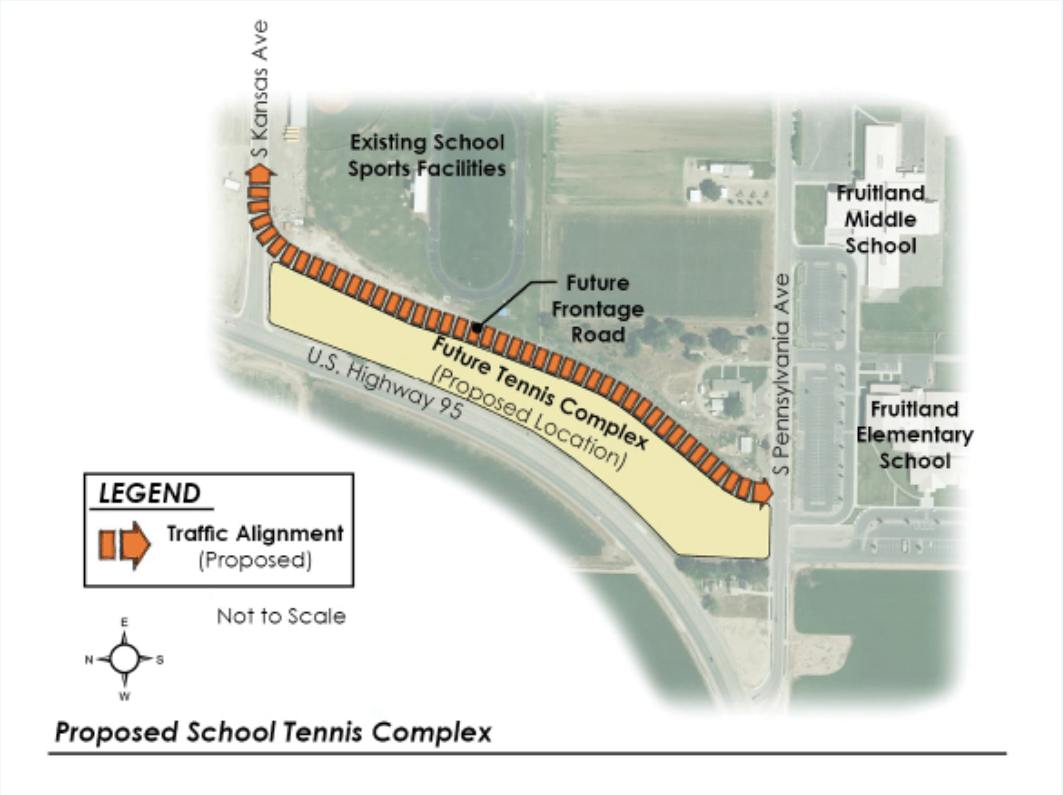
US-95 Frontage Road Property

Future Fruitland traffic plans identify a frontage road adjacent to US-95 that would link S Kansas and S Pennsylvania avenues. The frontage road would create an open space between the frontage road and the highway.

Because of its proximity to existing school sports facilities, the Parks and Trails Advisory Committee identified this space as an area that could potentially accommodate a proposed tennis complex.

The figure below shows a conceptual plan for the proposed frontage road and tennis complex.

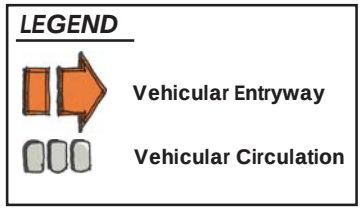
Existing frontage road area



Proposed School Tennis Complex

Figure 7. Outdoor Riding Arena & Sports Complex Conceptual Plan

Outdoor Riding Arena & Sports Complex Conceptual Plan



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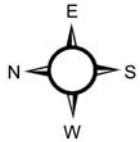


New Multi-use Trail Network

The vast majority of attendees at the public open house indicated support for a multi-use trail system, making it the top-ranked item requested. Fruitland should plan for approximately 20 miles of publicly-owned, multi-use trails through 10 primary corridors and along both the Payette and Snake rivers. Figure 8 shows the proposed trail locations in the trail network and Table 7 summarizes those trails.

2T - 2nd Avenue Trail

This corridor provides east-west access parallel—and adjacent to—NW 2nd Avenue, south of Fruitland. This trail would connect future residential areas of southwest and southeast Fruitland to anticipated industrial and commercial areas located along US-95, immediately south of town. The trail may be located on either the north or south side of NW 2nd Avenue, but should remain consistently on one side of the roadway in order to minimize motorized and non-motorized conflicts.

CT - Crestview Trail

This corridor connects existing Crestview Park to the proposed Snake River Park and provides access to facilities and activity zones near downtown Fruitland by the existing US-95 pedestrian underpass. A trailhead is proposed at the south end of the trail near the US-95 pedestrian underpass. This trail would provide important access to many recreational opportunities for downtown residents and to neighborhoods located southwest of downtown.

EST - East Side Trail

This corridor runs through what are currently low-density residential and agricultural areas east of Fruitland. The trail alignment extends from Payette River at the north end to a proposed trailhead at NW 2nd Avenue at the south end. Residential growth is expected in this area and it is important for future development to consider non-motorized routes through the area. This trail would provide valuable access to the Snake River for current and future residents located in east Fruitland.

FCT - Farmers Co-Op Trail

Farmers Cooperative Canal traverses Fruitland from the southeast to the northwest. The Farmers Co-Op Trail is so-named due to its alignment paralleling Farmers Cooperative Canal between NW 2nd Avenue and US-95 at the Payette River.

The southeastern end of this trail would begin at NW 2nd Avenue, near the trailhead for the Eastside Trail and the 2nd Avenue Trail. Between NW 2nd Avenue and W 1st Street, the trail would not only parallel the canal, it would also run in the same corridor as the existing railroad. North of W 1st Street, the trail would continue to follow the canal on a meandering pathway through north Fruitland to a point where the canal crosses US-95, just south of the Payette River Bridge. The Farmers Co-Op Trail would terminate at a proposed trailhead at this location.

Farmers Co-Op Trail corridor parallel to railroad

Farmers Co-Op Trail corridor parallel to canal

Figure 8. Trail System and Bicycle Lane Network Conceptual Plan

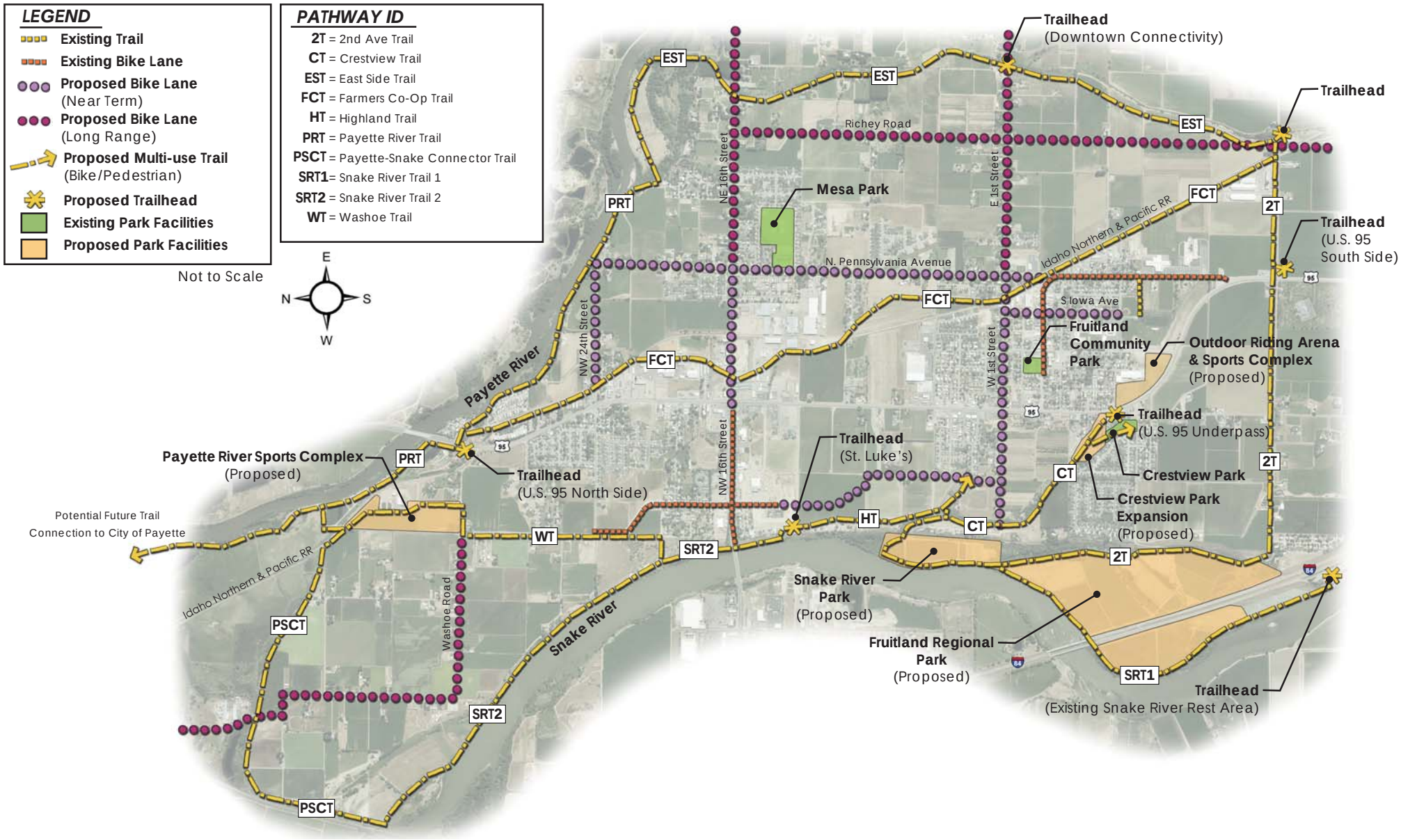


Table 7. Proposed Trail System Network

PATHWAY ID	DESCRIPTION	POTENTIAL PATHWAY TYPE	LENGTH (MILES)	AREA SERVED	ROADWAY CROSSINGS*	PRIORITY FOR IMPLEMENTATION
2T	2nd Avenue Trail	Multi-use trail, roadside trail	2.58	South Fruitland	US-95 S Whitley Drive	Low
CT	Crestview Trail	Multi-use trail	1.03	Downtown Fruitland, Southwest Fruitland	W 1st Street	High
EST	East Side Trail	Multi-use trail	2.52	East Fruitland, Payette River	W 1st Street NW 16th Street	Low
FCT	Farmers Co-Op Trail	Paved multi-use trail parallel to rail, paved multi-use trail parallel to canal, multi-use trail	3.25	Downtown Fruitland, Payette River, North-central Fruitland, South-central Fruitland	W 1st Street NW 16th Street NW 24th Street	Medium
HT	Highland Trail	Multi-use trail	0.82	Medical Facilities, Proposed Snake River Park, West Fruitland	N/A	High
PRT	Payette River Trail	Multi-use trail	2.42	Payette River, North Fruitland, Proposed Payette River Sports Complex	US-95	Low
PSCT	Payette-Snake Connector Trail	Paved multi-use trail parallel to rail, multi-use trail	1.55	Payette River, Snake River, North Fruitland	Washoe Road	Low
SRT1	Snake River Trail 1	Multi-use trail	1.95	Proposed Snake River Park, Snake River, I-84 Rest Area	N/A	Medium
SRT2	Snake River Trail 2	Multi-use trail	2.05	Proposed Snake River Park, Snake River	N/A	Medium
WT	Washoe Trail	Multi-use trail, roadside trail	1.49	Proposed Payette River Sports Complex, Snake River, Northwest Fruitland	Washoe Road	Low
		TOTAL	**19.66**			

*Considers existing paved roadway crossings only.

US-95=U.S. Highway 95; S=south; W=west; NW=northwest; W=west; N/A=not applicable; I-84=Interstate 84

This trail would provide non-motorized access to the Payette River, several commercial and industrial areas in central Fruitland, and most of Fruitland's residential populations downtown and in central and north Fruitland.

Coordination with and cooperation from the Farmers Cooperative Canal Company would be critical to the success of this trail. The canal company may require significant investment in safety features between the proposed trail and the existing canal.

HT - Highland Trail

This short trail would provide connectivity between a neighborhood located on NW 2nd Street, the proposed Snake River Park, and the developing medical and retirement community facilities located near the intersection of Allen Avenue and US-30 (NW 16th Street). A trailhead is proposed at the northern end of this trail on N Oregon Avenue. The Highland Trail would serve anticipated industrial and commercial properties located south of US-30 near Arizona and Allen avenues.

Due to the geography of Snake River's eastern bank in this area, the trail is intended to be located on top of the bluff above the river. The Highland Trail would connect Snake River Trail 1 to Snake River Trail 2.

Payette River Trail corridor

Highland Trail corridor

PRT - Payette River Trail

This corridor follows the Payette River between the East Side Trail to the east and the Payette-Snake Connector Trail to the west. This trail would provide valuable Payette River access to recreators travelling to the Payette River by non-motorized modes of transportation on the Farmers Co-Op, Eastside, and Payette-Snake Connector trails.

Existing river-front residential development and extreme topography along the southern bank of the Payette River may require alternative trail alignments that meander away from the river.

It is anticipated that this trail would ultimately extend upriver and downriver beyond Fruitland's area of impact to provide continuous Payette River access.

PSCT - Payette-Snake Connector Trail

As the name implies, this corridor provides connectivity between the Payette and Snake rivers through undeveloped areas northwest of Fruitland. This trail would allow recreators to access both rivers without requiring travel on roadways.

The trail would parallel an existing north-south rail corridor that crosses Snake River from Ontario, Oregon, into Payette County for approximately 0.4 miles. The trail would then turn east from the railroad corridor and continue east toward the Payette River.

SRT1 - Snake River Trail 1

Located southwest of Fruitland, this corridor follows the Snake River between a rest stop located on I-84 and the proposed Snake River Park. The trail would provide access to the Snake River for Fruitland residents as well as motorists travelling on I-84 who wish to take a respite from driving. As additional development occurs in the areas around I-84 southwest of Fruitland, this trail would provide valuable access to the Snake River.

It is anticipated that this trail would ultimately extend upriver beyond Fruitland's area of impact to provide continuous Snake River access.

SRT2 - Snake River Trail 2

Similar to Snake River Trail 1, this trail would provide valuable Snake River access. The trail corridor extends from the N Oregon Avenue trailhead, crosses under the US-30 Snake River Bridge, and follows Snake River's eastern bank to the existing railroad bridge across the river.

It is anticipated that this trail would ultimately extend downriver beyond Fruitland's area of impact to provide continuous Snake River access.

WT - Washoe Trail

This corridor provides north-south connectivity between the proposed Payette River Sports Complex located on NW 6th Avenue, residential areas along Washoe Road, the Snake River, and the Payette River. The south end of this trail would connect to Snake River Trail 2 at NW 20th Street. The north end of the trail would connect to the Payette River near the existing sanitary sewer lagoons.

The trail would parallel and run adjacent to Washoe Road and NW 6th Avenue for most of its alignment.

Washoe Road

New Bicycle Lanes

Recommended roadways for bicycle lanes are broken into near-term (up to 20 years out) and long-range (more than 20 years out) needs. Figure 8 shows the location of each bicycle lane listed below.

Near-term Needs

- Pennsylvania Avenue, SW 3rd Street to NW 24th Street
- NW 24th Street, US-95 to Pennsylvania Avenue
- Iowa Avenue, Fruitland High School to W 1st Street
- NW 16th Street, US-95 to Pennsylvania Avenue
- W 1st Street, Snake River to Pennsylvania Avenue
- Allen/Arizona Avenue, W 1st Street to US-30

Long-range Needs

- E 1st Street, Pennsylvania Avenue to Elmore Road
- NE 16th Street, Pennsylvania Avenue to Elmore Road
- Richey Road, NW 2nd Avenue to NE 16th Street
- Washoe Road, north and west of NW 6th Avenue

Due to the proposed multi-use Washoe Trail parallel to Washoe Road, between Allen and NW 6th avenues, bicycle lanes on Washoe Road are not needed.

NW 16th Street

New River Recreation

Fruitland should take advantage of the Payette and Snake rivers, two valuable, natural recreation resources, with whitewater recreation opportunities and river greenbelts.

Whitewater Park

Fruitland has a unique opportunity to develop a premier whitewater park and a whitewater competition course. The whitewater park concept could be developed in phases with local or regional sponsors. The actual course of the river would not likely be affected by the development of whitewater features. Such facilities would attract local and regional users to the area.

A whitewater park could incorporate numerous activities/facilities in one location:

- Kayaking
- Surf boarding
- Whitewater competition courses
- Instruction center
- Whitewater classes
- Concessions
- Picnicking
- Seating for observers
- Restrooms
- Parking
- Aesthetic landscaping

Permits would be required from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Idaho Department of Water Resources, and Idaho Department of Lands. County and local permits may also be required.

River Greenbelts

River greenbelts could provide active and passive recreation opportunities for residents and visitors.

- Greenbelt trails along each river corridor for biking, jogging, rollerblading, and walking
- Fishing opportunities from the banks along greenbelt trails
- Fishing opportunities from pier platforms along the river banks
- Bird and wildlife watching from trails and off-trail platforms
- Interpretative opportunities in wetlands and riparian areas where boardwalks would pass through these resources to reduce disturbance
- Designated put-in and take-out areas for floaters, swimmers, canoers, and kayakers
- Designated off-channel swimming and water play areas
- Trail segments can be either paved or unpaved depending on location

Provisions for gaining greenbelt right-of-way would need to be planned and executed over a number of years. Suggested right-of-way widths range from 50 feet to 150 feet depending on the location. Wider widths in some locations would also protect valuable riparian corridors from future disturbance. Methods of obtaining greenbelt buffers and trail right-of-way could include:

- Land purchase
- Endowments
- Easements from landowners
- Grants
- Conservation easements
- Sponsorship

Fruitland should explore memberships with the Snake River Water Trail and Payette River Water Trail organizations to promote water recreation as an active outdoor lifestyle and to partner with organizations dedicated to responsible water corridor use and management.

Recommendations for Existing Parks

In general, there are few opportunities for additional amenities to Fruitland's existing parks, mainly due to open space limitations. Incorporating trails and bicycle lanes that connect the existing parks to the rest of the community is the highest priority. Table 8 summarizes site-specific recommendations for existing parks.

Table 8. Summary of Existing Park Recommendations

PARK	RECOMMENDATION
Mesa Community Park	• Improve connectivity by adding trails, pathways, and bicycle lanes. • Add more opportunities for passive recreational activities. • Upgrade playground equipment.
Crestview Park	• Improve connectivity by adding trails, pathways, and bicycle lanes. • Add a small parking lot along SW 8th Street. • Add a picnic area/shelter and playground equipment near the SW 8th Street entrance. • Add a multi-use pathway connecting Crestview Park to the expansion area and amenities being proposed for the open space adjacent to Whitley Court.
Fruitland Community Park	• Explore adding a small splash pad/water fountain.
Swire Park	• Add a small picnic shelter or seating area.

SW=southwest

Mesa Community Park

Currently, reaching Mesa Community Park via non-motorized transportation is somewhat difficult.

Recommendations include the following:

- Add a pathway or trail system to link the park to a proposed bicycle lane along N Pennsylvania Avenue. This would provide much needed connectivity to other parks, neighborhoods, and the downtown core of Fruitland.

Mesa Community Park primarily serves as a sports complex with few passive recreation opportunities.

- Add more passive recreation opportunities, such as picnicking or dog walking, where feasible.
- Upgrade or enlarge the existing playground.
- Add a small splash pad near the playground.

Existing Mesa Community Park playground equipment

Crestview Park

Crestview Park is a neighborhood park on Fruitland-owned and maintained land that provides few recreational opportunities. It mainly serves as an open green space between residences. This park should be expanded.

Directly north of Crestview Park, situated adjacent to Whitley Court, is an undeveloped parcel of Fruitland-owned property that could serve as a potential expansion area for Crestview Park. The additional 6-acre parcel occurs in a natural depression with a small stream channel flowing through the north side of the parcel. The drainage channel provides a natural corridor which could offer much needed connectivity to the proposed Snake River Park site to the west.

Recommendations include the following:

- Add a small playground and picnic facility near the SW 8th Street entrance.
- Add a multi-use trail that connects the existing park space to the expansion area and amenities being proposed for the open space adjacent to Whitley Court.
- Add a small parking lot along SW 8th Street to increase the number of park users.

Currently, the most viable option for vehicular entry is SW 8th Street. However, access might also be added at the end of the Whitley Court cul-de-sac. More planning and engineering would be needed to determine the most suitable options for vehicular entry into the park.

Crestview Park (above) and open space adjacent to Whitley Court (below)

Crestview Park Expansion Conceptual Plan

Expanding Crestview Park would create additional space to help meet the recreational needs for the Crestview neighborhood.

The expansion area is located within a drainage that serves as a natural corridor for connectivity. A multi-use trail would connect the proposed Snake River Park with the US-95 pedestrian underpass – another connection to downtown Fruitland and a potential area for a parking lot and trailhead. Also, proposed trails would link the existing Crestview Park open space with the expansion area and provide stream views.

The small stream channel that flows along the northern boundary of the park creates an opportunity to revegetate the stream.

Suggested amenities for this neighborhood park expansion include an open space activity area, basketball courts, a playground, two picnic areas, and restrooms. The proposed picnic area would be similar to that shown in the sketch at right.

The Crestview Park expansion concept is shown in Figure 9.

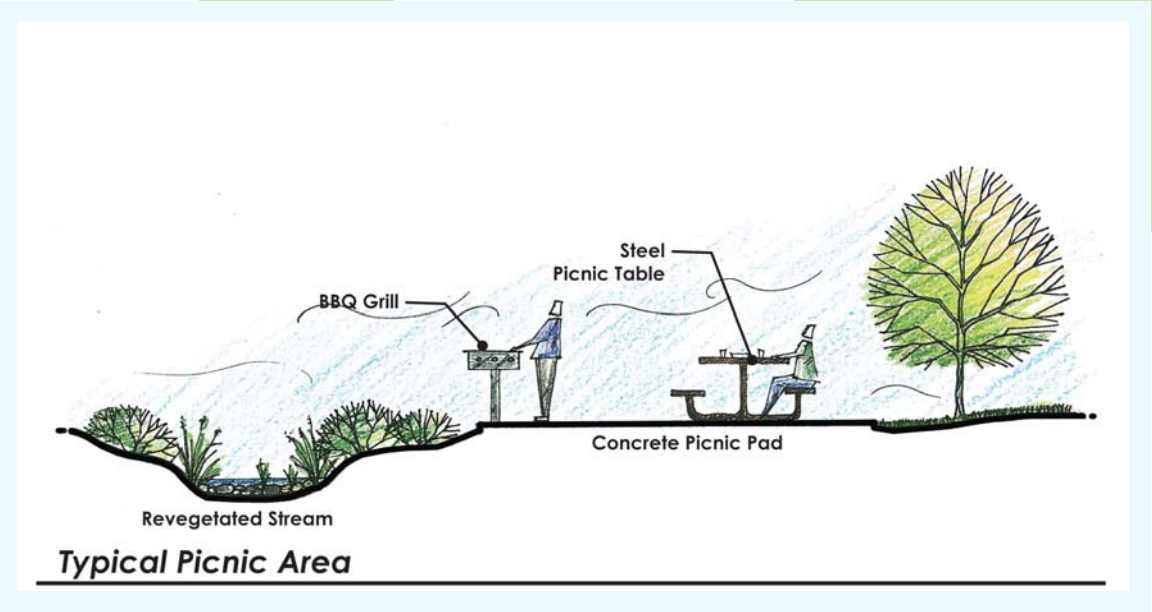


Figure 9. Crestview Park Expansion Conceptual Plan

Crestview Park Expansion Conceptual Plan

LEGEND

- Multi-use Trail (Bike/Pedestrian)
- Vehicular Entryway
- Vehicular Circulation
- Unpaved Multi-use Path

Not to Scale

E N S W

Potential Open Space Activities:
- Outdoor Volleyball
- Youth Soccer
- Tee-ball
- Ice Skating (winter)
- Frisbee
- Flag Football

Fruitland Community Park

Residents use Fruitland Community Park heavily for public and private events and the park offers several passive recreation opportunities. With its many walking paths—which connect to the recently completed SW 3rd Street widening project, including its new bike lanes—this park demonstrates how connectivity can be provided to the commercial district and school facilities.

Since this park is at the heart of the commercial core of downtown Fruitland, future planning should explore how to provide recreational and aesthetic value to this important part of Fruitland. One recommendation follows, which was by far the highest-ranked, write-in request on the public open comment cards:

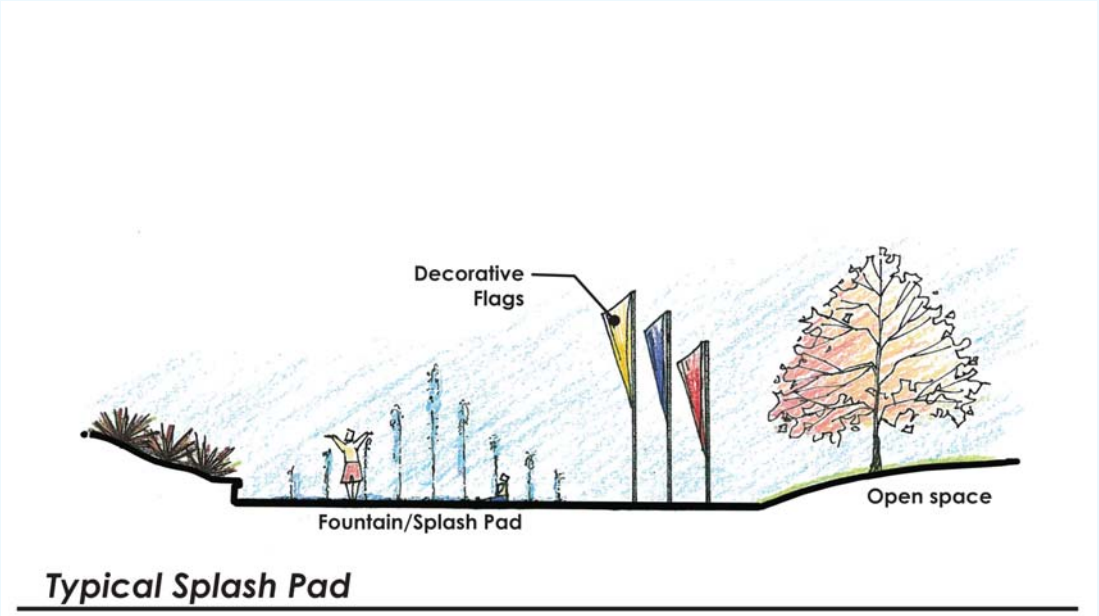
- Add a small splash pad/fountain plaza. See example sketch at right.

Swire Park

Opportunities to add additional amenities to Swire Park are limited, but should be focused on adding passive recreational and aesthetic value to the park.

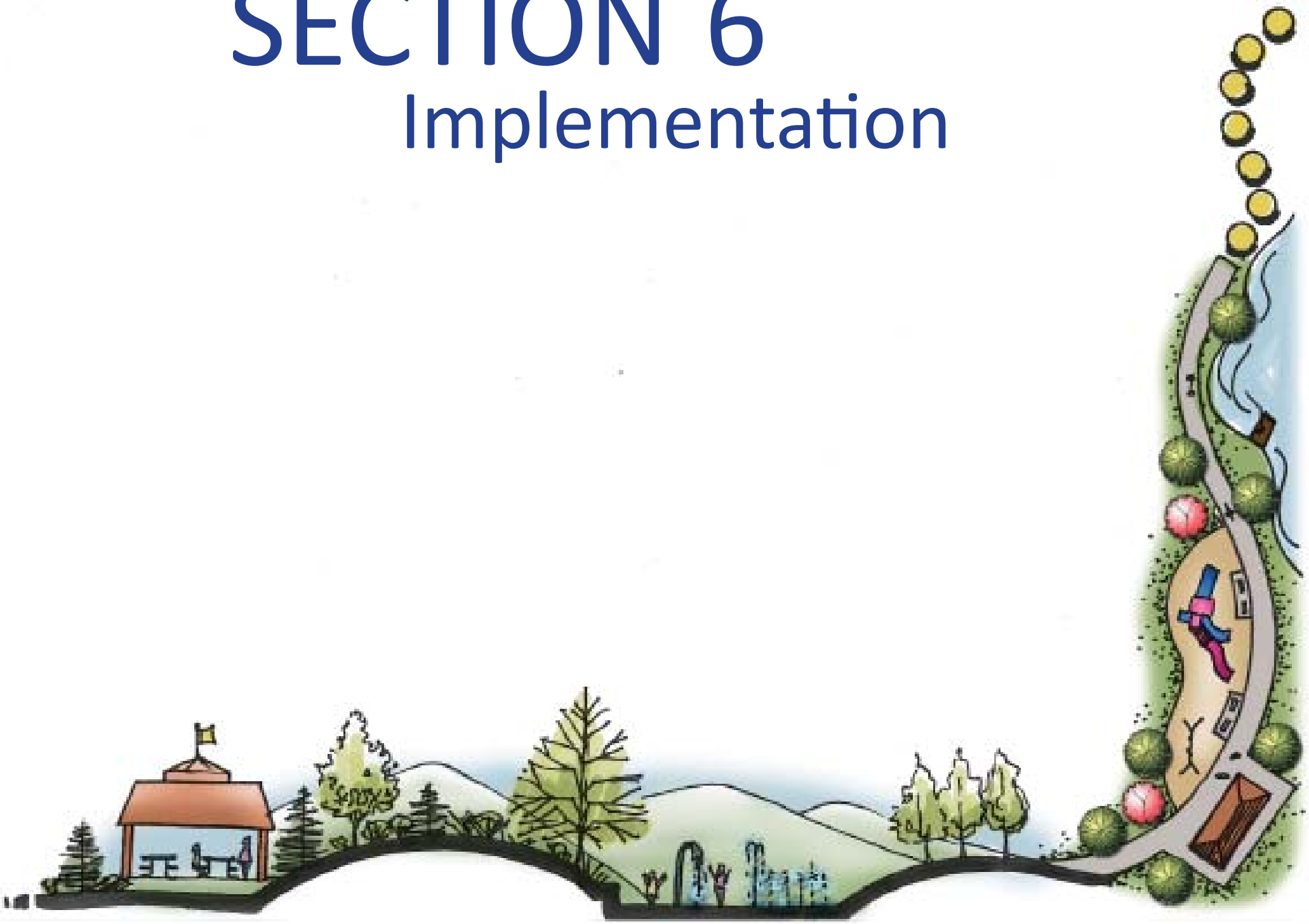
- Add a small picnic shelter or seating area that could be used by area residents, visitors, or employees working at the nearby facility.
- Fence in a small area for a dog park.

Existing Fruitland Community Park plaza



Typical Splash Pad

SECTION 6
Implementation



Planning Process

The following are the general steps involved in park planning and development.

I. Look for Opportunities

- During the planning phase for new industrial, residential, and commercial developments or for expansions of existing developments, consider options for adding or continuing trails, sidewalks, and bicycle lanes to connect these areas to businesses, neighborhoods, libraries, schools, hospitals, parks, and the Payette and Snake rivers.
- When upgrading existing city streets, look for opportunities to add sidewalks and bicycle lanes to increase non-motorized connectivity within Fruitland.

II. Acquire Land

- Examine alternatives for acquiring and developing trail corridors and parks identified in this master plan. Trail and park land acquisition and development could be accomplished in a variety of ways, including the following:
    - Land or easement purchase
    - Land or easement donation by developers or private parties
    - Leases
    - Prescriptive use
    - Endowments
    - Land dedication by developers, businesses, or private parties
    - Zoning requirements requiring open space and connectivity

III. Develop General Plan

- Project scoping
- Area and site assessments
- Recreation analysis
- Consultant selection
- Design
- Community outreach

IV. Obtain Plan Approvals

- Public hearings
- Site review
- City Council review
- Board of County Commissioners review

V. Select Consultant

VI. Develop Contract

VII. Collect Bids

VIII. Obtain Permits

IX. Develop Design and Construction Documents

X. Construct Park/Trail

XI. Open to Public

Permitting Considerations

Fruitland will be required to obtain environmental permits for certain features of the future parks and trails. Several state and federal agencies require permits for construction activities. Permits that may be required include the following:

Clean Water Act - Section 404 Permit

If any park or trail construction requires Fruitland to perform work in designated waters of the U.S., including wetlands, Fruitland must obtain a Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulate the discharge of dredged or fill material in waters of the U.S. under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. A Section 404 Permit would also be required to construct a boat ramp or dock below the ordinary high water mark of the Payette or Snake rivers.

Idaho Department of Water Resources – Water Rights Permit

If future park design plans call for the diversion or alteration of any rivers, streams, or springs/groundwater, Fruitland must obtain water rights with the Idaho Department of Water Resources. The Idaho Department of Water Resources administers all water rights in the state of Idaho. Water rights are also required by the Idaho Department of Water Resources for any non-municipal water that may be used for irrigation purposes at future parks.

Idaho Department of Lands - Encroachment Permit

If plans to construct a dock or fishing pier encroach on a navigable water in the state of Idaho (i.e., Snake River), Fruitland must obtain an encroachment permit with the Idaho Department of Lands. The Idaho Department of Lands places size and construction restrictions on these structures and they must be approved prior to construction.

Idaho Department of Fish and Game Permit and Coordination

Fruitland must obtain a permit from the Idaho Department of Fish and Game to release fish into fishing ponds. These permits require an Idaho Department of Fish and Game inspection to ensure that no non-native wildlife is released into public waters and lands. Fruitland may also coordinate with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game to have them stock the fishing ponds.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Construction Stormwater Permit

Future parks and trails projects may require an National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Construction Stormwater Permit from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. This permit is required if the construction of the project will disturb more than 1 acre of land through clearing, grading, excavating, or stockpiling fill material. The permit is required if there is any possibility that stormwater could run off from the construction site into surface waters or conveyance systems leading to surface waters of the state.

Potential Funding Sources

As parks and trails are planned and designed, explore funding sources for acquiring, developing, and maintaining and operating these areas. This section reviews some of the potential funding sources that may be available.

Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Recreational Grants

The Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation's Recreational Grant Program administers a number of state and federally funded grants, including but not limited to Waterways Improvement Fund, Recreational Trails Program, Land and Water Conservation Fund, and Boating Infrastructure Grant. Grants are awarded on an annual basis.

The Idaho Resource Conservation and Development Association can assist in securing grant funds for projects. Fruitland belongs to the West Central Highlands resource conservation development and should explore working with this association for help applying for state and federal grant opportunities.

Foundation Partnerships

Foundations will not provide funding to public agencies, but interested citizens could explore forming a non-profit that could partner with federal, state, and local foundations, such as St. Luke's Health Systems or the J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation. These partnerships are an effective way of securing funding for parks and trails projects because the foundations are often looking for ways to give back to the communities they serve.

Housing and Urban Development Block Grants

Grants from the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development are available for a wide variety of projects. Most are distributed to a community's lower income areas. Grants can cover up to 100 percent of project costs. Fruitland could work with a grant writer to explore opportunities for these grants and determine if areas of the community are eligible for this funding source.

Park Impact Fees

Park impact fees are collected from developers for the impacts their new development within a city has on that city's infrastructure. Park impact fees could be used for land acquisition and/or park development. Fruitland does not currently use this funding mechanism but should explore this as a viable option as Fruitland continues to grow and develop.

Donations and Volunteerism

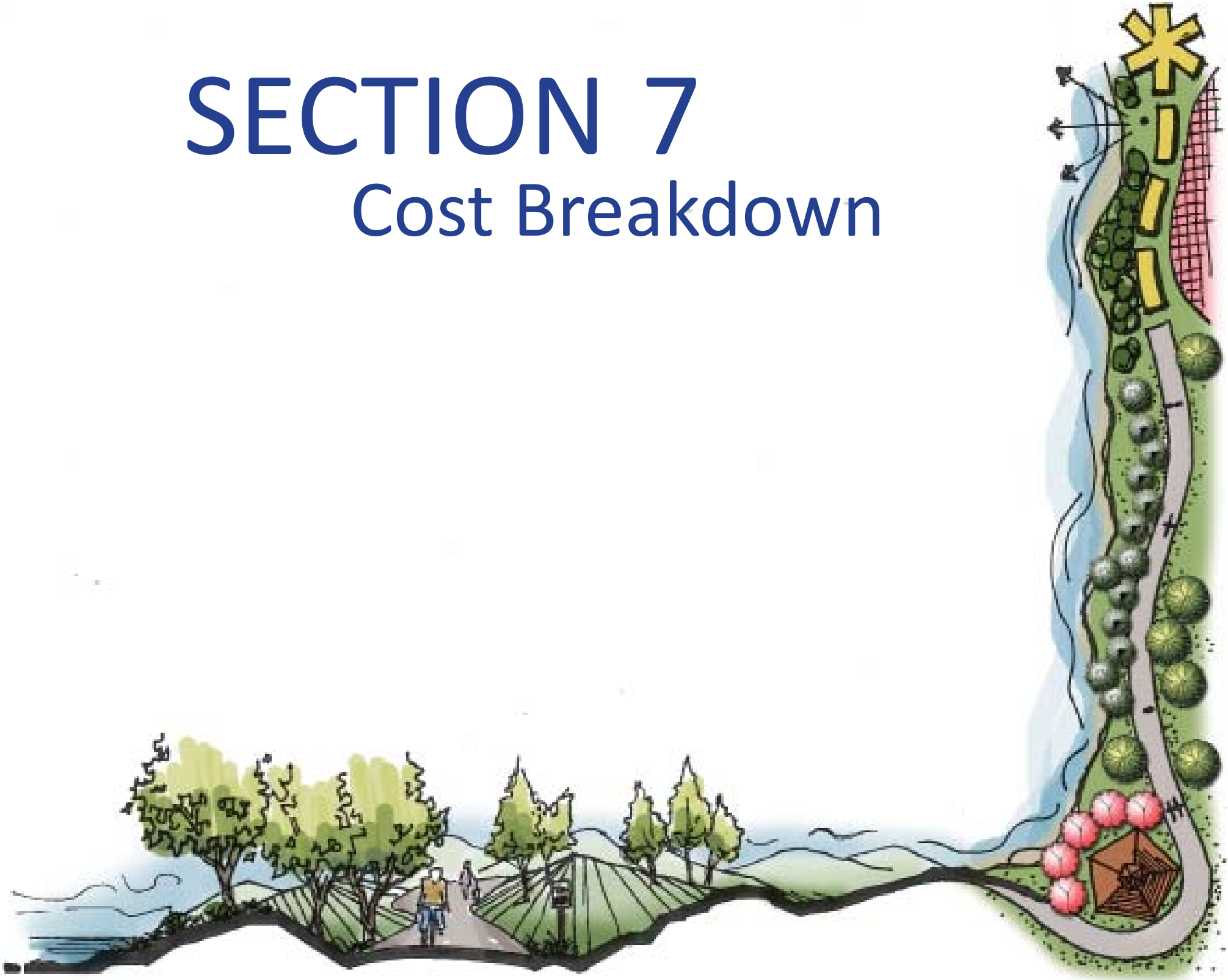
Labor, land, and cash donations from service agencies, clubs, private groups, or individuals are a popular way to raise small amounts of money for specific projects. Fruitland could work with local service groups or clubs to fund small projects or participate in volunteer activities, such as playground maintenance, trail maintenance, or tree planting. Giving citizens and community groups the opportunity to sponsor various park amenities, such as benches, tree memorials, or picnic shelters, is another funding source.

Bonds/Levies

Voter-approved bonds or levies could generate money that could be used for capital improvements. Typically, property tax is levied for a specific period of time to generate the funds. The advantage to this is that the bond/levy would have to be approved by voters, giving the community members a stake in the future of Fruitland's parks and trails.

SECTION 7

Cost Breakdown



Estimate of Probable Costs for Parks and Trails

The conceptual cost estimates in Table 9 are provided for a variety of park amenities, facilities, and trails. Having a general idea of cost helps more accurately identify and prioritize funding sources for park design and construction. Actual costs will vary due to many factors, such as type of funding (federal, state, local, private), quantity and quality of equipment, types of surfacing, and escalation in material costs. Because park and trail construction is site-specific, associated costs, such as grading, utility services, and land acquisition, also vary by project.

Table 9. Estimate of Probable Construction Costs for Parks and Trails (2014 Dollars)

ITEM	ESTIMATED COST	GENERAL DESCRIPTION
PARK AMENITIES		
Landscaped Open Space	$90,000/acre	Includes irrigation, topsoiling, sodding, planting areas,plants
Restroom	$100,000 each	Includes pre-fabricated concrete facility
Picnic Shelter – large	$75,000 each	Includes shelter and concrete pad
Picnic Shelter – small	$25,000 each	Includes shelter and concrete pad
Picnic Table	$1,500 each	Includes powder-coated steel picnic table
Bench	$1,000 each	Includes powder-coated steel bench
Trash Receptacle	$500 each	Includes trash receptacle and concrete pad
Drinking Fountain	$2,000 each	Includes fountain and concrete pad
BBQ Grill	$500 each	Includes grill and installation in concrete footing
Flagpole	$3,000 each	Includes flag pole and installation in concrete footing
Playground – high	$325,000 each	Includes equipment, drainage, 4-inch concrete base, containment curb, rubber tile
Playground – medium	$75,000 each	Includes equipment, drainage, 4-inch concrete base , containment curb, rubber tile
Playground – low	$25,000 each	Includes equipment, drainage, containment curb, wood mulch
Splash Pad	$150,000-$300,000 each	Includes hardscape, water circulation equipment, play equipment
Fishing Pier	$8,000 each	Includes wood construction materials
Concrete (for sidewalks)	$4.45/square foot	Includes 4-inch concrete over 2-inch aggregate base

Table 9. Estimate of Probable Construction Costs for Parks and Trails (2014 Dollars) (continued)

ITEM	ESTIMATED COST	GENERAL DESCRIPTION
RECREATION FACILITIES		
Baseball Field - official	$310,000 each	Includes irrigation, topsoiling, sodding, structures, fencing
Baseball Field - little league	$115,000 each	Includes irrigation, topsoiling, sodding, structures, fencing
Softball Field	$160,000 each	Includes irrigation, topsoiling, sodding, structures, fencing
Soccer/Football Field	$125,000 each	Includes irrigation, topsoiling, sodding, goals
Tennis Court	$50,000 each	Includes sub-grade, post-tension concrete, surfacing, fencing, net, paint
Basketball Court	$45,000 each	Includes sub-grade, post-tension concrete, surfacing, hoops
Volleyball Court	$35,000 each	Includes drainage, sand, surfacing, net
Horseshoe Pits	$2,000 each	Includes sand pits and fencing
TRAILS		
Paved Trail – 8 feet wide	$52,000/mile	Includes 2.5 inches asphalt over 6-inch aggregate base
Paved Trail – 10 feet wide	$65,000/mile	Includes 2.5 inches asphalt over 6-inch aggregate base
Paved Trail – 12 feet wide	$79,000/mile	Includes 2.5 inches asphalt over 6-inch aggregate base
Crushed Gravel Trail – 4-6 feet wide	$3,200/mile	Includes crushed gravel 3 inches deep
Crushed Gravel Trail – 12 feet wide	$7,600/mile	Includes crushed gravel 3 inches deep
Trail Signs	$1,500 each	Includes concrete footing and weather resistant signs
Trail Head Kiosk	$10,000 each	Includes concrete footing and wood or steel structure with signs

Sources: City of Boise Parks and Recreation Department 2014; Recreation Today Idaho 2014.

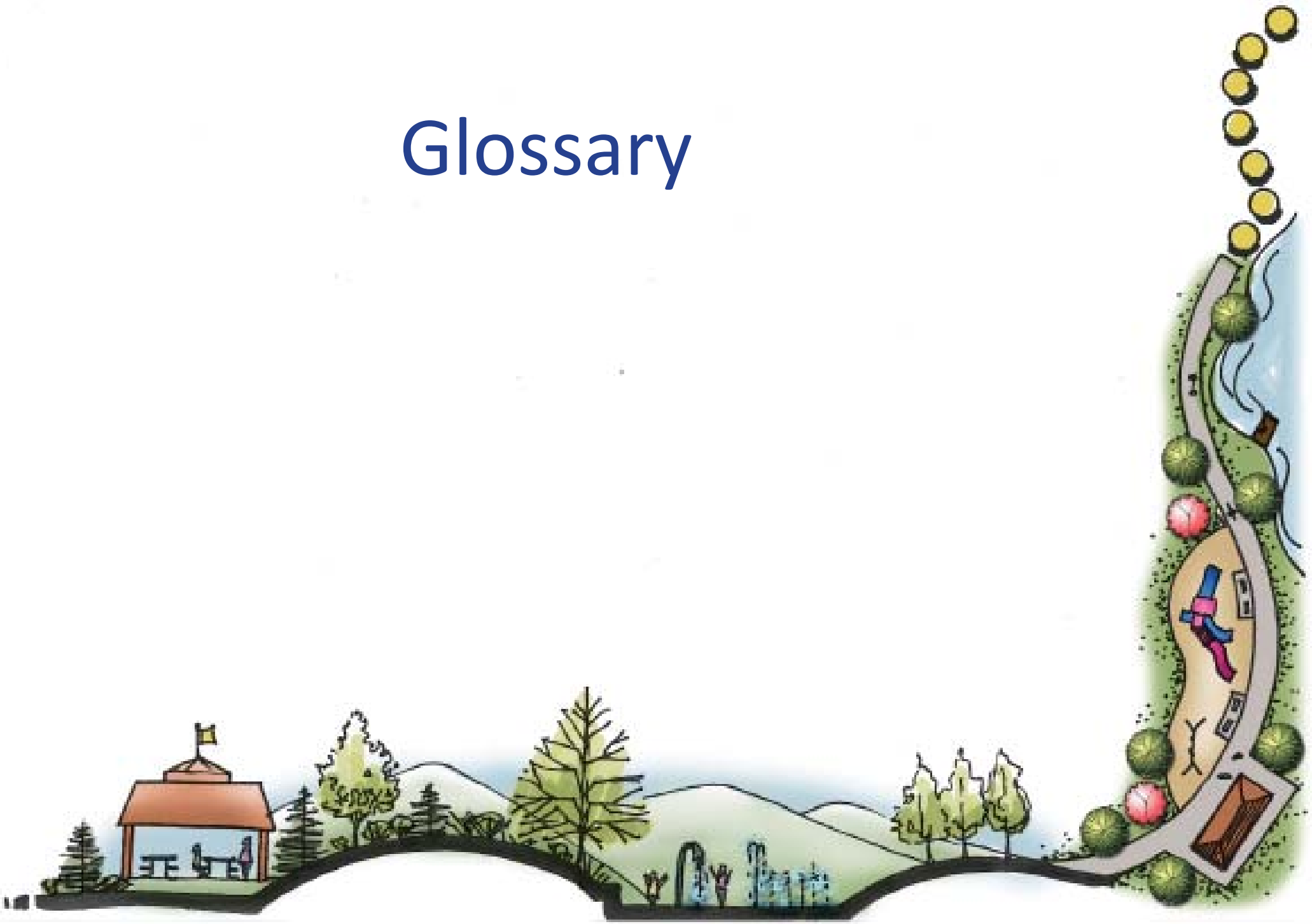
Parks and Trails Maintenance Considerations

As new parks and trails are developed, they must be managed and maintained if they are to continue to provide the benefits to residents for which they were originally constructed. Fruitland will need to strike a balance between the development of parks and trails with their ability to maintain what is constructed.

The best way to ensure that ongoing maintenance does not become a budget burden is to plan for maintenance needs from the beginning. A few key maintenance ideas are noted:

- When designing future parks and trails, spend a little extra money up front for quality materials that will hold up and save on maintenance costs over the long term.
- Consider involving community members in park and open space maintenance. Many communities have successfully established programs that involve residents, groups, and businesses in maintenance efforts, such as repairs to amenities, weed control, and trash clean-up. This type of engagement fosters a sense of community pride among volunteers, while ensuring the open space can be maintained for future enjoyment.

Glossary



Terms

Active recreation: Structured recreation area for activities requiring specialized development, equipment, and management, for example, sports courts.

Area of impact: A city and the county in which it resides negotiate the boundaries of and adopt a map identifying the city's area of impact and an ordinance specifying which comprehensive plan and land use regulations apply within that area of impact.

Arterial: A high-capacity urban road, the primary function of which is to deliver traffic from collector roads to freeways or expressways, and between urban centers at the highest level of service possible.

Athletic fields: The combination of ball fields and multi-use play fields.

Ball fields: Baseball, softball, football, or soccer fields of all sizes. Ball fields include a backstop and can include foul line fencing, spectator/player seating, skinned or grass infields, lights, scoreboards, and supporting amenities, such as a concession stand.

Maintenance: The regular tasks that keep parks, recreation facilities, and trails clean and safe to use. For example, trash collection, safety inspections, replacement of broken parts on equipment.

Collector roadway: A low-to-moderate road which serves to move traffic from local streets to arterial roads. Unlike arterial roads, collector roads are designed to provide access to residential properties.

Level of service: The standard for the minimum amount of space required to meet a community's recreation demand.

Multi-use fields: All 50-foot by 70-foot or larger, flat, rectangular fields for soccer, football and other sports and activities. These fields can include goals, spectator/player seating, scoreboards, lights, and supporting amenities.

Operations and maintenance (costs): The day-to-day costs to keep the system open, clean, and safe.

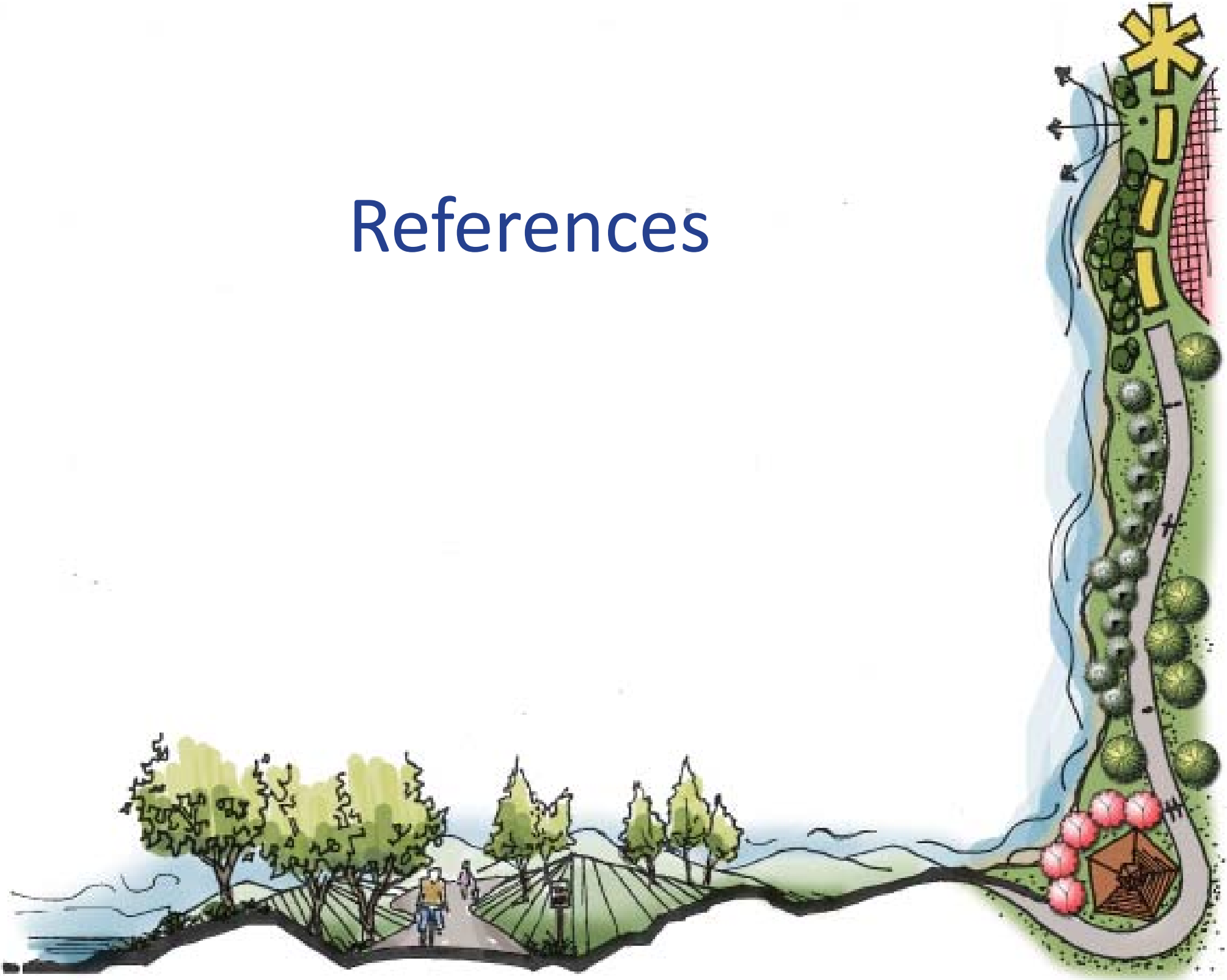
Parks: A piece of public land in or near a city that is kept free of houses and other buildings and can be used for pleasure and exercise or kept in its natural state to protect plants and animals.

Passive Recreation: Non-consumptive recreation area for such activities as wildlife observation, walking or bicycling, typically taking place in "natural" environments.

Splash pad: An aquatic feature that provides water play (splashing, spraying, dumping) with no standing water, eliminating the need for supervisory and lifeguard staffing. Splash pads are typically not programmed and free to access.

Trails: Trails include sidewalks, bicycle lanes adjacent to roadways, multi-use trails that provide both a transportation route and opportunities for walking, running, bicycling, horseback riding, and other highly desired activities.

References



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City of Fruitland. April 23, 2014. Email from Jerry Campbell regarding existing park maintenance and operations costs.

City of Fruitland. July 2013. *Comprehensive Plan*.

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National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA). 1983. *Recreation, Park, and Open Space Standards and Guidelines.*

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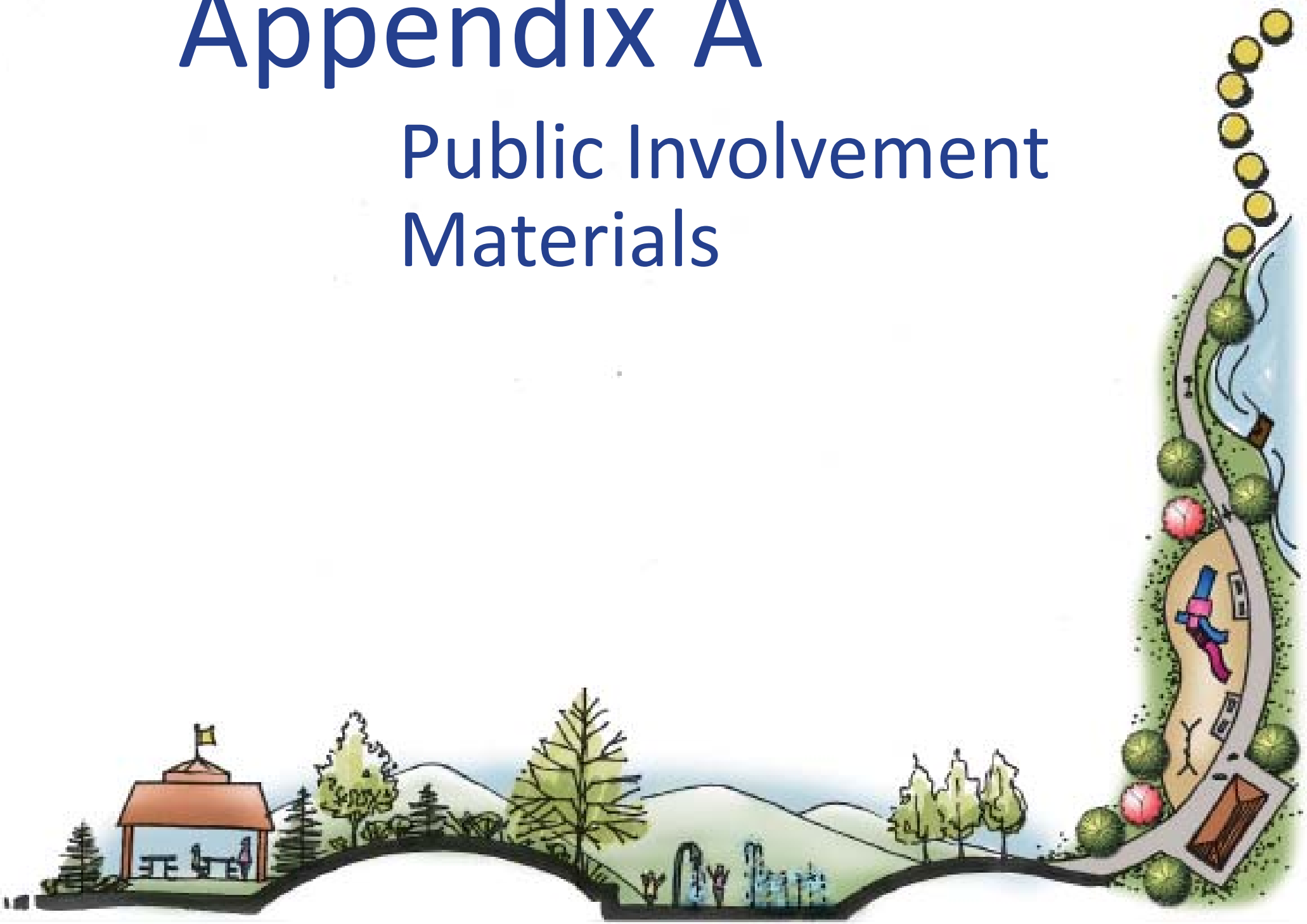
Appendix A

Public Involvement Materials



PARKS & TRAILS MASTER PLAN

City of Fruitland

Open House Public Meeting

Wednesday, February 19, 2014
Anytime between 4:30-8:00pm
Fruitland City Hall
200 S. Whitley

Please stop by City Hall and provide your input on the Parks and Trails Master Plan.

City of Fruitland
200 S. Whitley
P.O. Box 324
Fruitland, Idaho 83619

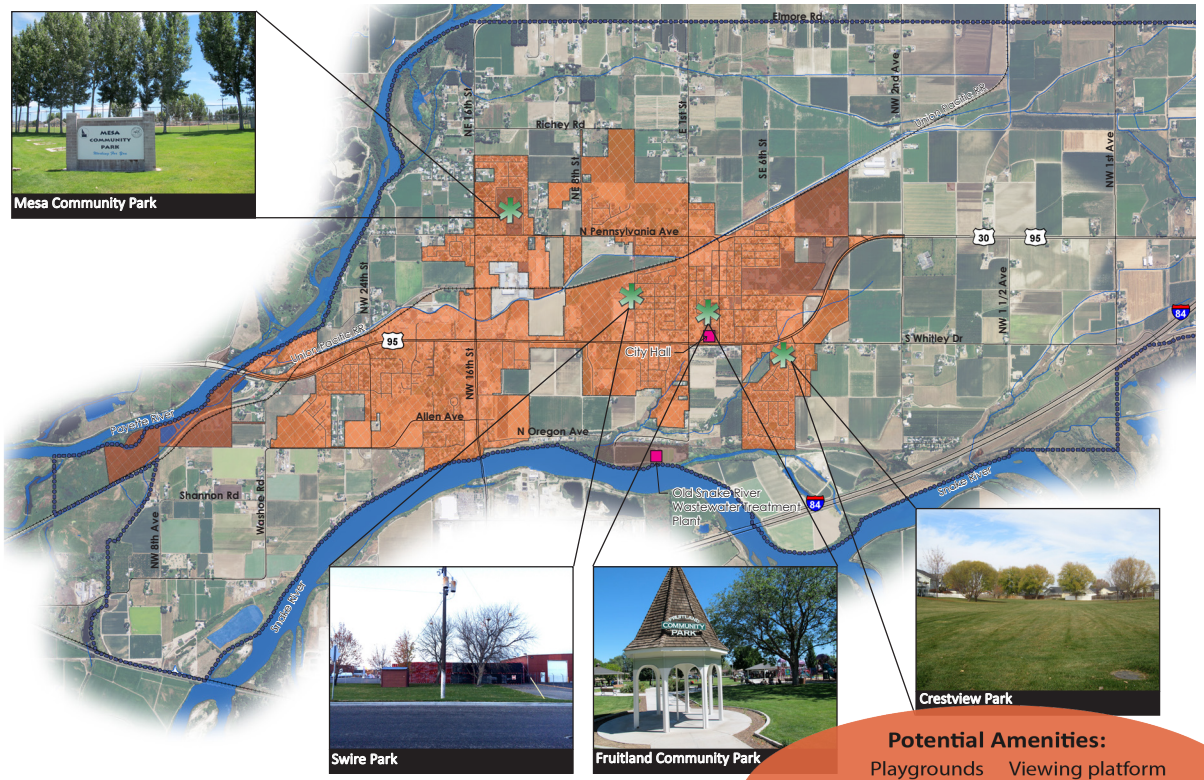
PARKS AND TRAILS MASTER PLAN OPEN HOUSE PUBLIC MEETING

You are invited to provide your opinion on the Parks and Trails Master Plan for the City of Fruitland

City of Fruitland Parks and Trails Master Plan - Open House Public Meeting

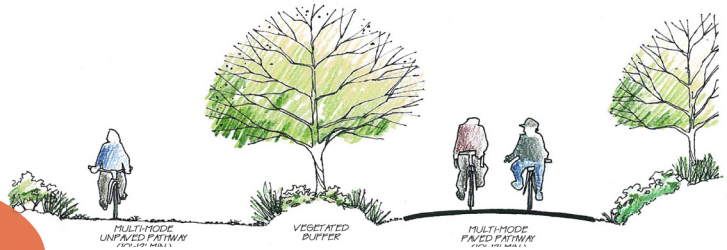
Wednesday, February 19, 2014, anytime between 4:30-8:00pm
Fruitland City Hall, 200 S. Whitley

Please stop by City Hall and provide your input on the Parks and Trails Master Plan.



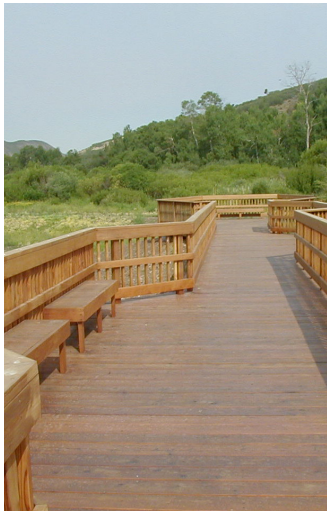
The City of Fruitland is developing a Parks and Trails Master Plan to plan the types of amenities, features, and facilities that could be constructed in new and future parks. You are invited to an Open House Public Meeting to view the potential opportunities and to provide your input on the highest priority facilities. Recommendations from this meeting will be used to shape the direction of the Parks and Trails Master Plan for the City of Fruitland.

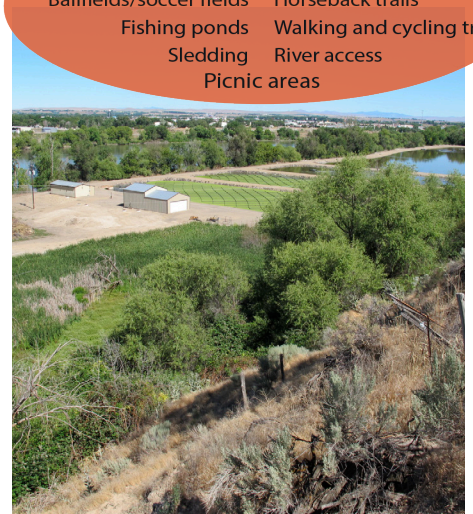
This is your opportunity to communicate to the City what matters most to you in a public park/trail system.



Potential Amenities:

Playgrounds	Viewing platform
Ballfields/soccer fields	Horseback trails
Fishing ponds	Walking and cycling trails
Sledding	River access
Picnic areas	





COMMENT CARD

City of Fruitland
Parks and Trails Master Plan
Public Open House - February 19, 2014

On average, how frequently do you or your family use Fruitland's existing city parks?
(Please select **one**)

- ☐ Once a day
- ☐ One to two times a week
- ☐ At least once a month
- ☐ Occasionally
- ☐ Never

What activities do you or your family use Fruitland's existing city parks for?

_____

_____

Would you like to see the city develop additional neighborhood parks and trails?
(Please circle **one**)

Yes **No**

- Over -

What activities/features are most important to you for inclusion into the city's parks and trails system? (Please select **three**)

- ☐ Multi-Use Trails
- ☐ Sports Fields (i.e. softball, soccer, football)
- ☐ Playground Equipment
- ☐ Fishing Ponds
- ☐ River Access (i.e. boat launch)
- ☐ R.V. Campgrounds
- ☐ Amphitheatre
- ☐ Restrooms
- ☐ Parking (vs. walking to a park)
- ☐ Equestrian Facilities (i.e. riding arena)
- ☐ Picnic Areas
- ☐ Skateboard Park
- ☐ Natural Areas
- ☐ Sports Courts (i.e. tennis, pickleball, basketball)
- ☐ Large Parks
- ☐ Pocket Parks
- ☐ Other _____

Do you have any additional suggestions that would help the city in developing the Parks and Trails Master Plan?

_____

_____

_____

Thank you for your suggestions!

Please mail to: City of Fruitland
P.O. Box 324
Fruitland, ID 83619

Summary of Fruitland Parks and Trails Master Plan
Open House Comment Cards

Attendees at the February 19, 2014 Fruitland Parks and Trails Master Plan (PTMP) open house were asked to complete comment cards to help with the development of the PTMP. The comment cards asked attendees to respond to five questions (indicated in **bold**, below). A total of 50 comment cards or notes pertaining to the information presented at the open house were received at the open house or in the days following the open house. The following summarizes the comments and question responses:

On average, how frequently do you or your family use Fruitland's existing city parks? (Please select one)

Options on Comment Card	Number of Respondents
Once a day	3
One to two times a week	12
At least once a month	9
Occasionally	21
Never	4

What activities do you and your family use Fruitland's existing city parks for?

Write-in Responses	Number of Respondents
Picnics/BBQ	17
Playground	17
Recreational Sports	9
Family Events	9
Tennis	7
Walking	7
Softball	4
Soccer	5
Baseball	4
Community Events	3
Biking	3
Tee-ball	1
Viewing Nature	1
Class Reunion	1
Funeral/Memorial Service	1

Would you like to see the city develop additional neighborhood parks and trails? (Please circle one)

Options on Comment Card	Number of Respondents
Yes	48
No	0

What activities/features are most important to you for inclusion into the city's parks and trails system? (Please select three) [Note: More than half of respondents indicated many more than just three selections, so all selections are represented below.]

Options on Comment Card	Number of Respondents
Multi-use Trails	39
Fishing Ponds	25
Natural Areas	24
Restrooms	23
River Access (i.e., boat launch)	21
Picnic Areas	23
Playground Equipment	19
Parking (vs. walking to a park)	17
Sports Fields (i.e., softball, soccer, football)	13
Sports Courts (i.e., tennis, pickleball, basketball)	12
Pocket Parks	8
Amphitheatre	7
R.V. Campgrounds	6
Large Parks	6
Equestrian Facilities (i.e., riding arena)	5
Skateboard Park	3
Other*	-

*Write-in suggestions under "Other" on comment card:

Suggestion	Number of Respondents
Water/Splash Park	8
BBQ Pits/Stands	2
Dog Park	1

Suggestion	Number of Respondents
Bench	1
Archery Range	1
Arboretum	1
More Tennis Courts	1
Volleyball	1
Sand Volleyball	1
Frisbee Golf Behind Crestview Park	1
Boat Access to Snake River	1
YMCA	1

Do you have any additional suggestions that would help the city in developing the Parks and Trails Master Plan?

Write-in responses: [Organized by common topics.]

Water/Splash Park

- Splash pad in downtown park.
- Please keep in mind that there is a large population of small/young children. They need a place to recreate in the heat of summer. A water park is a must!!!
- I would love to see some sort of water/splash park in Fruitland. I feel that there are limited things to do in our area involving water. We go often to the two splash parks in Meridian and I think having one close to home would be a great addition to our community!!

Skateboarding

- Skateboard park - No!

Tax Revenues

- I think the city needs to take caution to make sure this does not increase property tax.
- Riding arena would take away tax revenues on Highway 95.

Parking

- Parking - not off of 8th Street. Access difficulties.
- No parking on SW 8th Street.

Sidewalk

- A sidewalk on Pennsylvania Avenue from school to 16th Street. Paved pathway is preferred.
- I live adjoining Pennsylvania Avenue. It's long and flat and citizens use it as a green belt now. Baby strollers, walkers, and joggers have a choice between walking in gravel or down the middle of the street. Asphalt both side of Pennsylvania. Or give the ditch company a "save and hold harmless," get the consent of your insurance company, then grade, oil and pave the ditch service pond. Also, control neighboring dogs.

RV Park

- Not in favor of RV park. Baseball parents that have RVs can park in lots.
- Don't want to see any RV parks or baseball fields in lagoon area.
- Not in favor of RV area. Not used by locals as much as outsiders. We need facilities for our own citizens!
- I do not like the idea of RV areas in the lagoon park. I would not feel safe with my children with an RV park there.
- Would not like to see RV parking.

Sports Fields

- Settlers Park in Meridian is a great example. There seems to be plenty of sports fields already.
- Lagoon Park Concept C limits sports to baseball/softball. Concept B has no sports. Concept A is a better plan.
- I like Lagoon Plan A, though it would be nice to see a larger fish pond and smaller sports area as we already have sports fields.

Fishing Ponds

- Fishing pond seems like an unneeded expense since river fishing is right there.
- I would like a fish pond.
- Fishing ponds on natural habitat at lagoon parks.
- Like Ben Kerfoot's concept of natural habitat or natural fishing ponds.

Trails

- We drive to Boise greenbelt to ride bikes. It would be awesome to have a trail system in Fruitland!
- I drive to Boise to use the greenbelt to run or bike. I would love to do that here!! I also have workmates that drive to Boise on a weekly basis to ride the greenbelt.
- Would like good trails to be able to walk or run without avoiding cars and dogs.
- Trails from housing to park are very important.
- Encourage two-lane trails – half for walking, half for biking.
- Do not allow cars on the multi-use trails!
- Mountain bike terrain park trail.
- Trails would be awesome, especially as fitness is becoming more important.

- I would love trails to walk/bike with my family.
- It would be so nice to have a place to walk and hike. I would use these often.
- Would like to see river trail extend from Fruitland to Weiser river trail. Want a building to lease in the park for a private business that rents tubes and transports back from Payette.
- Great to see a plan and a place you can hike and bike on the trails.
- Love the proposed trail system.
- Like Lagoon Park Concept A – walking/bike riding trails highest priority to get pedestrians off county roads.

General Comments

- I feel like Mesa Park is lacking the quality toys it once had. I loved the big slide and ever since it became broken and got removed, that park has lost much of its appeal to my children.
- The city should buy the last best river access property – the 33 A at 25th and Washoe Road – for a large park and multi-use. Grants are available!
- I walk everywhere or ride my bike where it is safe. There is very little safe area in the NW part of Fruitland. How about developing neighborhood parks or trails in the NW part of town?
- I would like to see Crestview Park developed first, but a sports complex and walking paths would be nice too.
- Control neighborhood dogs.
- I like Lagoon Park Plan A.
- Looks like you are on the right path!
- A very ambitious plan, but I'm 83 years old.

City of Fruitland

Parks and Trails Master Plan, July 2014